

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

NEW SERIES.

THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCING ILLUSTRATIONS IS RESERVED.

No. 382.—Vol. 1.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1862.

PRICE 3D.—STAMPED 4D.

THE NEW ALLIANCE.

A SUBJECT which is not yet quite ripe for discussion, but of which the importance will doubtless be felt before long, if the statement of its objects given by the Paris *Patrie* be correct, is the new alliance between France and Russia—which must mean, at the same time, the cessation of the alliance between France and England. Any extensive political arrangement for promoting French and Russian interests in Europe and in the East must be directly injurious to Austria, and indirectly so to England. Prussia, it appears, is to be taken care of, and

is to have the Schleswig and Holstein question settled in accordance with her views, and therefore in opposition to those hitherto maintained by France and Russia, who, conjointly with England, signed the "Treaty of London," which guarantees the rights of Denmark in the German Duchies. What will Prussia have to do in return for this breach of faith on the part of her new allies? To give a promise, no doubt, that she will not interfere on behalf of Austria should France and Italy declare war against that Power. It is not impossible, too, that the reconstruction of a

little Poland may be contemplated on the model of the Duchy of Warsaw formed by Napoleon after the battles of Eylau and Friedland and the Treaty of Tilsit. In that case Prussia would have to give up a small portion of Posen, which, to obtain the right of interference in Schleswig and Holstein, she might well do. The Schleswigers and Holsteiners have proved, arms in hand, that they consider themselves Germans, and that they sympathise to the greatest possible extent with Prussia. The Poles of Posen, on the other hand, have shown that they detest Prussia as much now as they did immediately after the partition



BIRDS OF PARADISE.—A SKETCH IN THE GARDENS OF THE ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

of their native land, and that to Germanise them is utterly impossible. Of course we do not imagine that either Russia or Prussia would care to form a new Poland merely from love of the Poles. But it might suit both of them to get rid of a certain number of disaffected subjects, and the newly-organised kingdom would of course be quite ready to act against Austria, which would suit the views both of Russia and France. France would be able to settle the Italian question and to get something for herself out of the settlement. Russia would have an opportunity of weakening Austria on the Danube, and, perhaps, of securing that portion of Galicia which, according to the ethnologists of the Czar, is inhabited by Russians (i.e. "Ruthenians.")

What would be at least as interesting to England, though scarcely more so than the arrangement France may make with the Italians, will be the mode devised by France and Russia for settling affairs in Turkey. The views of France as a nation, and not merely those of her present Emperor, in connection with the Eastern question, may easily be learnt from the debates on the subject which took place in the Chamber of Deputies under Louis Philippe's reign. Several of the principal politicians of France—at a time when France really had politicians and statesmen—declared openly that there was no possibility of preserving the Ottoman empire; and that any endeavour to construct an Arab or Egyptian empire that should hold the same position in Europe which Turkey has hitherto occupied would be equally vain. M. de Lamartine, soon after his return from the East, where he had been most hospitably received, recommended in plain terms that the Turkish empire should be partitioned—France, of course, taking care to secure a lion's share in the division of the spoil. "Providence," he exclaimed, "has given us an opportunity of gaining an ascendancy in the Mediterranean, and our Cabinet refuses to take advantage of it." M. de Lamartine lamented this fact "because civilisation and the good of humanity are inseparably connected with French supremacy"—an argument which Napoleon III. would be very likely to make use of, and which was employed by Napoleon I. over and over again. M. Thiers, in his speeches on the Eastern question, never repudiated the scheme of partitioning Turkey as unjust and immoral, but merely as, under actual circumstances, impossible. "Do you know," said this plain-speaking orator, "what has determined me against this policy?—an argument which, with practical men, has great importance. It is simply that it is impossible." He added in a regretful tone that there were no means of commencing negotiations with Russia on the subject, and that the mere suspicion that such a design was entertained might have the effect of rousing the hostility of all the rest of Europe.

These were the views which were entertained by all French politicians, whether supporters or opponents of the Government, when M. Thiers was Prime Minister. He has been especially blamed for the Eastern policy pursued by France during his tenure of office; but it is only fair to him to bear in mind that successive French Cabinets had all pursued the same course. Nevertheless, M. Thiers was the first French Minister who openly avowed the designs of France in the East, and who declared that she entertained as part of her permanent policy the project of establishing a strong influence, if not of founding a dominion, in the countries now under Turkish rule.

It would be a waste of time to consider whether or not Russia has designs upon Turkey. Doubtless, Russia is not very strong just now for external action, but it is just possible that the Government might be able to strengthen its prestige and power over its subjects by engaging in a foreign war which would appeal to the ambition of all Russians. Though Russia can have very little force at present as a fighting Power, she possesses still less in a diplomatic point of view. No moral support which she could give to France would be of any value to her ally; but she may fancy that she can avert the revolution with which she is threatened in her own country by joining the French in their favourite project of carrying revolution abroad.

From what has already transpired in the French journals about this new Franco-Russian alliance, it is quite clear that it is vast in its nature and profoundly immoral. It would be, moreover, very alarming to England were it not for the fact that such immense projects must always have a great many weak points about them, of which we, if we keep our eyes open, may easily take advantage.

BIRDS OF PARADISE.

The exhibition of live birds of paradise has already become a great attraction at the gardens of the Zoological Society, since, although numerous specimens of these beautiful creatures have been preserved in our museums in a stuffed condition, it has always been difficult not only to obtain them living but to obviate the danger of a voyage and the necessary confinement of such delicate creatures in cages. For about eight years Mr. A. R. Wallace, the well-known traveller and naturalist, has been engaged in exploring the islands of the Indian Archipelago; and, although he has frequently visited the very districts where the various species of these lovely birds were collected in perfect groups, he has never until recently been successful in preserving the living specimens which had been captured for him. At the end of last year, however, he discovered two specimens of *Paradisæa papuana* (the lesser species) in Singapore, and proceeded at once to purchase them of the merchant, and brought them safely to London by the following mail.

It is scarcely surprising that these exquisite little creatures should be amongst the greatest favourites of the Zoological Society's exhibition, and their large cage is usually surrounded with fair admirers whose gay dresses and ample skirts bear some resemblance—with the simple exception of inconvenience in the latter—to the gorgeous plumage of the foreign prisoners. Indeed, the upper room of the museum, where they are lodged, may be said to display distinct specimens of paradise-birds; those ornithological curiosities which are placed behind the galvanised iron wire represent the paradise of nature, wild, glowing, free, and gorgeous, and the birds of paradisaical fashion, who are, perhaps, wild, certainly glowing and

gorgeous, but fettered by the rigid exactions of conventional regulations. A dangerous place for the ordinary male visitor is that room where the two birds gleam gemlike in their ample plumage, which defies the competition of silk, and lace, and muslin—a scene where the hours of a Mohammedan paradise might be supposed to have adopted *jupes à la mode*, and to vanquish the gorgeous birds even by their veiled and subdued radiance.

Altogether, this department of the gardens is a great attraction, and it may be hoped that, by care and the due administration of such delicate fare as rice, bread, vegetables, and fruits, with an occasional mealworm or cockroach, they may continue to be preserved, at all events until experience in their treatment may enable us to procure other specimens of the various groups of their beautiful family.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

There is very little news from Paris. The reinforcements for the Mexican army are being hurried on. It is said that the French expeditionary army in Mexico will be raised to 30,000 men. It is likely to be still further increased, we fear, before the end of the business is arrived at. General Forey has had a long conference with the Emperor at Vichy on the measures to be taken in the present emergency.

The *Public* returns to the story of the understanding between France and Russia, but limits the *entente* now to a common course of conduct upon the question affecting the Turkish occupation of Servia—a very great falling off indeed from the original announcement of an agreement upon all Eastern, Italian, German, and Danish affairs made by the same journal.

A correspondent writing from Paris on Tuesday says he is assured that the *Moniteur* will shortly announce the recognition of the Confederate State of America simultaneously by France and Russia; and that the Southern Envoy will be formally received by the Emperor on his return from Vichy.

SPAIN.

A telegram from Madrid states that a Council of Ministers was held on the 15th, at which the propriety of speedily recognising the kingdom of Italy was discussed—and, it is stated, favourably received.

ITALY.

The official recognition of Italy by Prussia has been announced in the Turin Chamber of Deputies. General Sonnaz has been appointed Italian Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of St. Petersburg. In Berlin the relations never were actually interrupted, the representative of King Victor Emmanuel having always been received there. The Turin Ministry have laid before the Chamber the whole of the papers relating to the acknowledgment of the kingdom by Russia and Prussia. The news of the recognition by Russia and Prussia led to a popular demonstration in Venice, which is said to have assumed a character very alarming to the authorities.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on Monday, General Durando, in reply to a question of Signor Petrucci, stated, amidst much applause, the condition of the foreign relations of the country. He said: "The basis of our policy is the alliance with France. I renew the energetic protest of the Administration against the speech delivered by Garibaldi. Allied with France, the Government will never act contrary to the interests of Italy. Our relations with England are of a very cordial nature. The documents relative to the recognition of the Italian kingdom by Russia and Prussia have all been laid upon the table, from which it will be seen that no conditions were imposed. The Government of the King hopes that the other German Powers will follow the example of Prussia." The Minister further declared the existence of friendly relations with Belgium, Switzerland, and the other Powers; he mentioned the difference with Spain, and added a few words respecting Montenegro and Servia. Relative to the question of Venice, General Durando stated that some projects had been entertained during the past year of the purchase of Venetia, which had not arrived at any result. He hoped finally that the settlement of the Roman question would not be long delayed.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Minister of Finance submitted the Budget for 1863 to the Viennese Chamber of Deputies on the 17th inst. The requirements for the military service are estimated at twenty millions of florins, or two millions sterling, which is a lesser amount than was demanded on former occasions. The total expenditure for 1863 is estimated at 302,500,000 fl., and the income at 304,300,000 fl. The Finance Minister proposes that the deficit should be partly covered by an increase of taxation.

The Governor of Transylvania, Count Crennoveit, has been summoned to Vienna to report upon the state of affairs in that province, with a view to the early convocation of the Transylvanian Diet.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia has formally received the Envoy of the King of Italy, Signor d. Lamour. The official *Monitor* of Berlin announced the fact on Monday. The step thus taken by the Prussian Government would have had more value in Italy and in Prussia if it had been something better than a mere troading in the footprints of Russia.

On Tuesday, in the Chamber of Deputies, M. Reichensperger asked for information respecting the recognition of the kingdom of Italy by Prussia. He said that the Prussian Government had not, in recognising the kingdom of Italy, acknowledged the principle of nationalities. He said, also, that guarantees had been given in the despatches of General Durando, and that it was in the interest of Prussia to recognise Italy. Count Bernstorff concluded by stating that the Catholic Powers had recognised that kingdom, and that Prussia need not be more Catholic than they.

RUSSIA AND POLAND.

It is asserted that an attempt has been made within the last few days upon the life of the Emperor of Russia. As Alexander was walking in the gardens of his palace in St. Petersburg he was fired upon by an assassin. The most strenuous efforts have been made by the Russian Government to prevent the news from getting abroad, or, in case of any rumour finding its way out, to induce it to be confounded with a reported, but not fully authenticated, attempt of the same kind which gave rise to some alarm several weeks back.

The destructive fires which have spread such terror among the people are still numerous in the provinces. The Civil Governor of Tobolsk reports to the Minister of the Interior a fire that has destroyed in that city ninety-five houses, a wooden church, the office of the Administration of the Commune, and the archives. Only the official papers for the last four years were saved, and some of the church ornaments. A second fire is reported from Kiamenetz-Podolsk, that has destroyed several private houses, the police-office, the printing-office of the local government, and the Treasury. The Catholic cathedral is also very much damaged. A third conflagration at Browary, in the district of Osterk, has destroyed fourteen houses. The reports describe the origin of these fires as unknown.

The prospects of Poland are brightening. According to a telegram from Cracow the administrative separation of the kingdom from the Russian empire is decided on. The determination is attributed to the Emperor, and the Grand Duke Constantine has been appointed to carry out the plan. A general amnesty is also shortly expected at Warsaw. The Grand Duke has permitted nineteen women expelled or having made hostile demonstrations to return to Warsaw. A telegram from Thorn, however, states that a wide-spread conspiracy has been discovered at Warsaw, in consequence of which a great many arrests have been made. At the same time it must be added that Polish news arriving through Thorn has not always borne the most authentic character.

A letter from Soukum-Kale, under date of the 20th ult., states:—"We have just learnt that a column of 4000 Russians has been surprised by mountaineers in the defile of Deknake, in Abasch, near Schigamschia; the former were utterly routed and nearly all destroyed. A large supply of munitions and several pieces of

cannon fell into the hands of the mountaineers. Nothing could have been more opportune, as supplies are much wanted, and will prove most useful. A detachment of all the tribes, consisting of Kistian Oglo, Ismail Effendi, Osman Effendi, Ismail Bey, Beki-Zade, Halji Hassan Effendi, and others, will shortly leave for Constantinople, thence proceed to Paris and London to present a memorial to the respective Governments urging the European Powers to induce Russia to terminate the war against the Circassians—a war whose country has not been conquered, and a war which is a violation of the law of nations."

TURKEY AND MONTENEGRO.

Omer Pasha announces by telegram that on Saturday, July 20th, the Turks drove the Montenegrins from their entrenched position at Sagratz, and pursued them in the direction of Cetina. The Turks are said to have numbered 50,000 and the Montenegrins 10,000. Both sides suffered heavy loss.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

GENERAL NEWS.

The President has paid a visit to the army of General McClellan, with the view of seeing for himself how matters stood, and what changes, if any, were wanted. On the arrival of the President at Harrison's Landing, General McClellan, with several other officers, visited him on board; after which the President and the General held a private conference for half an hour. They then proceeded to visit the line of intrenchments. The President was welcomed with great enthusiasm. He was not satisfied with riding in front of the army, but dismounted and ascended the ramparts to view the enemy's pickets. The President briefly addressed the army, and said he had come to see for himself, and that he should be satisfied. It was said that they had been "whipped," but that was so, and never would be. He knew the men would fight as well as equal to the task before them, and would never give up without going into Richmond. He declared his confidence in the army and its commander.

Letters from Washington of the 4th of July state that large reinforcements are being sent to General McClellan, detached from the corps of Halleck, Burnside, and Hunter. General Maney, chief of McClellan's staff, had arrived at Washington. The public feeling in the capital is very depressed. The Confederates are reported to be falling back to Richmond. Captain Wilkes has been appointed to the command of the James River flotilla. The reinforcements sent to General Burnside had passed up the James River.

The Governors and official bodies in the Union States are making great efforts to urge on the enlistments, and it is supposed that recourse will be had to draughting or conscription.

The bombardment of Vicksburg continues. The rebel fleet in the course of the Mississippi is being actively precluded.

Two Confederate gun-boats and one ram are reported to be in the Bay. Ten thousand Confederates are below Mobile on the 26th ult. The inhabitants are sanguine that the city could not be taken.

Mobile despatches say that the Confederates under Van Dusen captured Baton Rouge, near New Orleans, and taken 1500 Federal prisoners. A large body of Confederates has captured Marietta, Georgia, near Nashville, and taken one Federal regiment prisoner. It is supposed that they will attack Nashville. Considerable movement exists at Louisville, Kentucky. The Confederates are reported to be in force near Frankfort.

General Bragg is reported to be at Lupello with 40,000 Confederates.

Congress has adopted a resolution asking the Government for the correspondence with General McClellan.

The 4th of July—Independence Day—was outwardly celebrated in New York and elsewhere in the usual fashion. There was a display of gun-firing, fireworks, shouts, and stamp oratory; but among the respectable and thinking portion of the people a palpably painful feeling prevailed. It was felt that the great things which had been promised to be achieved by that day had not been realised, and that, instead of triumph over the so-called rebels, the Federals had a discomfited army and 40,000 citizens lying dead or dying in the swamps of Virginia. Truly not very pleasing reflections with which to go a holiday-making.

A meeting of the members of Congress for the Border States has been held at Washington to consider President Lincoln's emancipation scheme. The *New York Evening Post* says that the majority oppose the scheme, and will decline to accept the proposal.

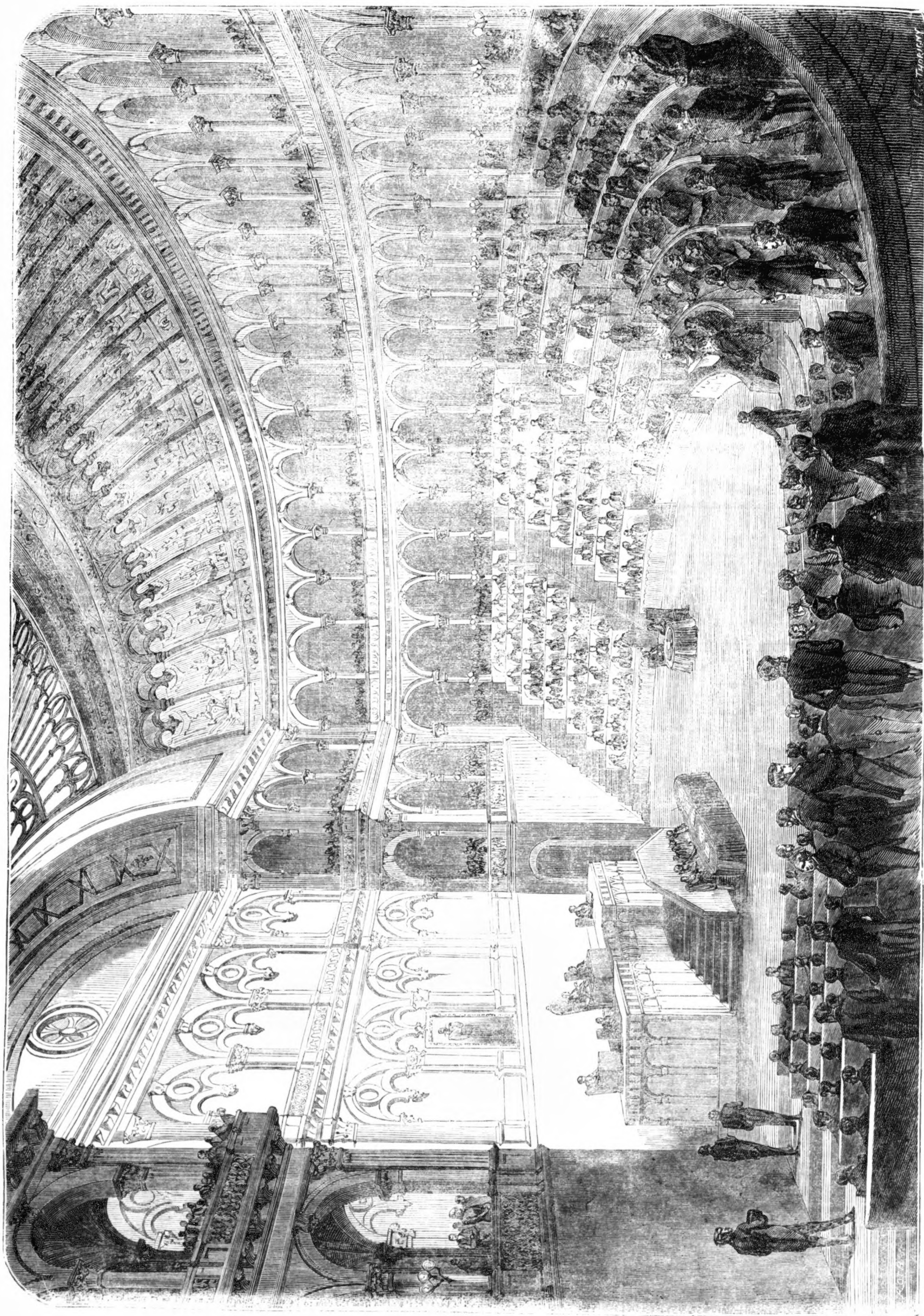
A telegram was published in London last week stating that General McClellan had offered to surrender his army conditionally, that the Confederates had refused to grant any conditions whatever, and that the Federals were evacuating Fort Monroe. This statement appears to be unfounded, no confirmation of it whatever having been received by later steamers.

THE BATTLES IN VIRGINIA.

More elaborate accounts of the series of great battles of the "strategic success" to have assumed new proportions. A *New York* correspondent says the first announcement of the battles as a "strategic victory" for the Union aroused the public thinking, and alarmed Wall-street so much as to send down the prices of Government and every other kind of stock. The United States Six per Cent Bonds of 1881 fell 3 per cent; the 7 20 Treasury Bonds 5 per cent; and every kind of railway and other stocks took the contagion, and receded from 3 to 6 per cent. The Post Office, over which the Government exercises no discretionary power, represented the market in a clearer light.

Newspaper reports and private letters confirmed the bad impression produced by the War Secretary's telegram, and showed McClellan to have been outgeneralled as well as outnumbered; to have taken up, in the first instance, an untenable as well as a most unhealthy position in the swamps between the Pamunkey and the Chickahominy; and in shifting his base of operations to the line between the Chickahominy and the James River to have lost upwards of 20,000 men; and this, not according to the report of his opponents, but by the confession of his own friends—spectators of the series of bloody encounters by which the campaign was effected. His army is represented to have numbered 55,000 men, so that his forces were doubly, or more than doubly, decimated. One man out of every five in his army was either killed, wounded, prisoner, or a deserter, and the whole force only escaped annihilation by consummate luck rather than consummate skill. The Federals, brave as they were, do not appear to have fought with the desperate yet orderly courage of the Confederates on any one day of the numerous struggle, if the reports of the Federals themselves are to be depended upon; and, as yet, no statement has come from Richmond to throw a light on the truly but great success which has rewarded the Confederate cause. The two most famous battles of the series appear to have been fought on Friday, the 27th, and Monday, the 30th of June. Friday's battle was fought at a place called Gaines's Hill—a mill, where a panic, almost equal to that of Bull Run, was, with the greatest difficulty, prevented. "Some gallant officers," says the *Tribune's* correspondent, "endeavored to rally and reform the strugglers, but in vain; while many officers forgot the pride of their shoulder-straps and the honor of their manhood, and led with sneers and contempt. Elsewhere the same correspondent speaks of the "fighting host" and the "poor bewildered men;" and can only add, in explanation of their panic, that they had to fight as one against three. The rout at last became general, in spite of the exertions of the Pringle, Joinville, General Butterfield, and others, to turn the tide, and the officers actually discharged their revolvers at their own soldiers to prevent the rout. But all was in vain. The division was broken, and the men knew it. In their desperation they seem to have forgotten that they might as well die by the hand of their own officers as by that of the enemy, and resisted all threats as well as blunders to renew the hopeless fight. On Saturday, the 28th ult., the fighting trains of the army were started through the dense forest, and

DINNER TO M. GALLAIT.—The series of entertainments to distinguished foreigners, in relation to the International Exhibition, will henceforth be remembered as having included one of a particularly interesting character, which took place on the 18th instant in honour of the great Belgian artist M. Gallait. A dinner on a very grand scale was given to this gentleman at Willis's Rooms. Earl Granville occupied the post of chairman, an office which at all times he fills with remarkable grace, but for which, when a large proportion of the company present is composed of foreigners, he is more especially fitted. On the present occasion he was well supported in his duties of entertainer, as well as of president, by Sir Charles Lock Eastlake, P.R.A.; Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A.; Mr. Clarkson Stanfield, R.A.; Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A.; Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A.; Mr. Solomon Hart, R.A.; Mr. Macise, R.A.; Mr. W. Calder Marshall, R.A.; Mr. David Roberts, R.A.; Mr. Thomas Faed, A.R.A.; Baron Marochetti, A.R.A.; Mr. Frederick Taylor, president of the Water-colour Society; Mr. Louis Haghe; Sir F. Goldsmid, M.P.; Alderman Selomons, M.P.; Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P.; Mr. Constantine Ionides, Mr. Henry Schroeder, and Mr. Joseph Arden.



A SITTING OF THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT AT TURIN.



ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE CONVENT OF ST. BENOIT, MOUNT CARO.

THE FETE OF ST. BENOIT.

AMONGST the most distinguished of those saints to whom the people round Rome offer the honour of a fête and a pilgrimage is St. Benoit, of Mont Caro. It is said, indeed, that he was the first to establish the monastic life in the West, which may or may not furnish a claim to veneration, according to the point of view from which one regards it. However, he originally drew up for his disciples rules and regulations which were regarded as models of wisdom and

piety, and, in the year 504, retired to the deserts of Sublaqueum. He lived, upon the mountain of Caro, about forty miles from Rome, a life so saintly that several persons, attracted by his reputation, voluntarily took up their abode in the locality in order that they might hear from his own lips the precepts of Divine morality. Compelled, however, by persecution, to quit this retreat, the holy man sought another refuge in Mount Cassin, where, with his adepts, he founded, in the year 529, the celebrated Benedictine Abbey. His

memory is still so greatly regarded that, on the morning of the day on which his fête is celebrated, a great concourse of pilgrims, with priests and people, meet in the little town of Subiaco to go in procession to the place where he had lived so many years, and where, assisted by his disciples, St. Donato and St. Mauro, he had made in the rock the convent which bore his name, and was situated more than 2000 feet above the level of the sea, commanding the gorges of Mont Caro.

The bridge on the left was named after St. Mauro, who, according to tradition, perished at that spot in the waters of the torrent. The little chapel situated above it is also dedicated to him. The school, to which the traveller arrives immediately afterwards in ascending the mountain, is placed under the protection of St. Scholastique, sister of St. Benoit. The next edifice which is reached, not without some labour, is the convent, built in the rock by the saint himself, the door being almost concealed by the trees which shadow it. Lastly, the convent upon the ridge of the mountain has been consecrated to the memory of St. Donato, the second disciple and companion of St. Benoit.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 195. HIS LORDSHIP COUNTED OUT AGAIN.

ALAS for Lord Robert Montagu! Whenever he brings a motion before the House he is inevitably counted out. Some months ago he was prepared with an elaborate speech upon the complicated affairs of Schleswig-Holstein, had made some way through his formidable mass of papers, and hoped to bring his well-studied address to a satisfactory conclusion, but long before he could arrive at the peroration, the House dwindled away and was dismissed by a count. Last week he determined to enlighten the House and the English public upon the Mexican question, and he canvassed extensively to secure an attendance, but, again, before the question could be put, away went the House. This time, however, having the fear of a count before his eyes, he rattled through his speech with great rapidity, and, to his own surprise, it was not counted out. But there was no result, for, whilst Mr. Weylake was coldly pushing his way through an elaborate speech which he had prepared, some mischievous member popped his head from behind the Chair, whispered in the Speaker's ear that there were not forty members present, and again the House came to a premature close. How is it that the noble Lord is thus always so ominously cut short in his labours for his country's good? Is there any spite against the noble Lord? No, none whatever. The simple fact is, we apprehend, that the House has come to the conclusion that the noble Lord meddles with things too high for him, matters too big for him to grasp. He is not devoid of ability, he is unquestionably industrious, he can speak fluently enough, and some days, perhaps, when he has read and thought more, he may be competent to discuss large questions of foreign policy; but he is hardly ripe for such weighty business yet. At all events, this is the feeling of the House. "Little men," said Napoleon, "should not go in for the great game." There is a small knot of men in the House so angry at being counted out that they are pondering the matter with the view of abolishing counts. But how is this to be done? Truly the quorum of 40 out of 658 members is small enough; and, as to compelling the attendance of members, that is impossible. Besides, is there an instance on record of a count out when a really important measure was brought on by a competent person at a suitable time? We do not believe there is one. Whenever there has been a count out, we may rely upon it that either the time was inopportune, the member incompetent, or the business unimportant. However, there is no fear that this institution of counts will be abolished. It is too valuable. It is such a capital means of reining presumptuous meddlers with matters too high for them—beyond their *crepidula*, as Lord Palmerston would say—and for the painless extinction of bores; and, lastly, it is invaluable, in the interest of the people, for the prevention of hurried legislation in packed Houses at unseemly hours.

A DREARY NIGHT.

At last the long-promised Indian Budget has been presented to the House. Sir Charles Wood, the Chief Secretary of State for India, unrolled his scroll on Thursday night, and what a dreary time it was! Sir Charles began his task at half-past six o'clock, and for two hours we saw his lithe, spare form awaying backwards and forwards over the table, like a bulrush in the wind, and heard the dull ripple of his monotonous voice. At first the House was unusually full for the time of year. That discrepancy between Sir Charles and Mr. Lindsay had to be explained, and the members were anxious to learn who was right—the Secretary-in-Chief or his sub.; but the House soon dwindled down. It was impossible to hold out long against that dreary speech. "Come away," members said one to another; "come away—we shall see it all to-morrow." And long before Sir Charles had got halfway through the mass of papers which lay before him he had to speak—all important as the subject was—to a miserable array of empty benches and a few scattered members, most of them more asleep than awake. Sir Charles is said to be an able administrator. Indeed, we have heard that Sir Robert Peel once declared that Sir Charles was the best Chancellor of the Exchequer that we ever had; and everybody knows that he is one of the hardest workers that ever appeared in a Government office. But he is as dreary a speaker as ever rose in the House of Commons. To listen to him attentively, to follow him through the confused maze of his repetitions, and parentheses, and turnings, and windings, and circumlocutions, and the while to keep hold of the thread of his discourse, is a herculean if not an impossible task. We have often tried to do this, but always failed. We have fixed our eyes upon Sir Charles, and summed up all our mental powers to keep abreast of him in his circuitous wanderings, but never could do it. Either we unconsciously glided off into reveries of our own, or, meagrely by his wavy figure or lulled by the drowsy hum of his monotonous voice, drifted away through the Gate of Flora into the land of dreams. It does not, however, follow that, all this notwithstanding, Sir Charles is not an able man and an excellent administrator. Indeed, there must be some stuff in this man, if we reflect; for he took a double first at Oxford, and has since his first came out as private secretary to Earl Grey held most of the important offices of State, and all with credit. Whatever may be his gifts, that of utterance has certainly been denied him. Only once in our recollection has he made anything approaching to a vigorous speech, and that was when he thrashed Mr. Lindsay during the Crimean War. Sir Charles was First Lord of the Admiralty, Lindsay severely criticised the doings of the department; and on the following night Sir Charles came down and opened such a vigorous fire upon his censor that the House was amazed, and cheered him lustily; and for a time the honourable member for Sanderland seemed annihilated. But this was an entirely exceptional case. Sir Charles was temporarily inspired. The affluents, however, soon left him, and since then he has been as dull as ever.

A CRUSH.

On Friday night the long-expected debate upon American affairs came off, and not for years has there been such a crush to get into the House as there was on that occasion. When we entered St. Stephen's Hall both sides were lined with strangers waiting to get into the gallery, which was already full. In the lobby there was a mob of people so dense that it was with difficulty that members could thread their way into the House. And as soon as Mr. Speaker had taken the chair, such was the pressure at the door, and so impatient and importunate was the crowd, that the authorities had to give orders to the police to turn the whole mob of gentlemen out of the lobby, down the corridor, and into the central hall. Of course there was no small dissatisfaction manifested when this order was put into effect. The English gentlemen loudly protested against this flagrant invasion of their rights. The foreigners having cards from their Ambassadors at first stared aghast, not knowing what the movement meant, and then shrugged their shoulders, and spluttered, and vociferated, and were very indignant. One knot of gentlemen who had got into a corner positively refused to budge for a time; but two or three tall policemen of the A division, with their Inspector, fringed them and showed them that resistance was vain. And here let us correct a mistake which seems to have got abroad. There is a notion very prevalent that the lobby of the House is public ground. This is an error. The lobby is private ground, and so, indeed, is every part of the palace. The public are admitted, but only as a favour and so long as no inconvenience arises. But the Speaker-at-Arms has control over the whole building; and, further, it is one of his prime duties to keep all the avenues to the House clear for the approach of members; indeed, his jurisdiction goes much further than the House. It extends to the streets; and all constables

and police-officers, and even the military, if need be, may be called out to keep open and clear the avenues to the House, so that the members may have free ingress and egress without molestation or hindrance. The cause of the presence of this unusual crowd was twofold—first, the subject of the debate was attractive; and, secondly, and mainly, the pressure was attributable to the Great Exhibition.

ILLUSTRIOUS STRANGERS.

Of illustrious strangers we had a great number that night. There was Count Montalembert, doubly illustrious—illustrious by his rank, but more so by his talents. We had also Prince Leichtenstein, the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and suite, besides other foreign swells whose names we could not catch. Most of these high-born personages came alone, or with one attendant; but the Grand Duke had a tail like a comet. Some dozen gentlemen followed in the wake of this lord of five thousand acres and half a million of people. Mr. Mason of the well-known firm of Shillid and Mason was of course there; he is always present when his friends Gregory and Lindsay speak on American matters. But there was another gentleman under the gallery whom we never saw in the House before—to wit, Mr. William Howard Russell, the special correspondent of the *Times*. With the exception of Count Montalembert, we fancy that Mr. Russell is the greatest potentate of all. He has no palace, no castle, no domain, no titles, but we remember the time when by means of those Crimean letters of his he stirred the English heart and mind to their depths, and exercised more power over the House of Commons than the Premier himself. It was he in the main that compelled the House to appoint that famous "Committee on the Army before Sebastopol," and it was principally owing to him that the notable Coalition Ministry with the Earl of Aberdeen at its head was split to pieces.

THE AMERICAN DEBATE.

Very few of these swells, foreign or English, stepped long in the House, and no wonder, for this also was a dreary debate—a case of a great subject in the hands of little men. Mr. Lindsay delivered a long, slip-slop, rapid speech, which proved nothing but that Mr. Lindsay had better let alone subjects which he is utterly incompetent to handle. Lord Alolphus Frederick Charles William Vane-Tempest also favoured the House with his views, and most satisfactorily verified the oft-quoted line of Campbell, that a certain sort of people—we will not use the exact word—"rush in where angels fear to tread." Mr. White gave us one of his Irish fireworks, interesting enough to look at, but which at such a time and on such an occasion was entirely out of place. And Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald uttered an harangue which surely he would scarcely have ventured to deliver if he had thought that he would soon again be Under Secretary of State. These were all who spoke in favour of intervention, except a certain Mr. Hopwood, the member for Clithero, whom we did not hear, for the best of all reasons—viz., that amidst the hubbub which his speech evoked from the impatient members below the bar, he was quite inaudible. On the other side we had Mr. Peter Taylor, the member for Leicester; Mr. W. E. Forster, the member for Bradford; and Lord Palmerston. Mr. Taylor had more than once addressed the House before, but with questionable success; but on this occasion he justified the expectations which heralded him into the House. All he wants is a little toning down. He is at present somewhat too impatient and impassioned. Let him but correct these defects, speak more calmly, and restrain somewhat his impetuosity, and he will be a great addition to the growing power of the Radical party. Mr. W. E. Forster spoke deliberately and well, though we have heard him speak much better. Lord Palmerston's speech was worthy of the occasion. It was just one of those opportunities which call forth the best powers of the noble Lord. His speech was very short, but it was wise and statesmanlike, and was so perfect an answer to all that had been delivered by the speakers on the other side, that everybody saw when he sat down that the question was settled. It was like the deliverance of a great Judge after the wranglings of a set of ignorant advocates none of whom were competent to comprehend the question at issue. On the whole, however, this was a wretched debate, utterly unworthy of the great question discussed, and one which must have very much astonished Count Montalembert and the other foreign swells in the gallery. The accomplished Count has spoken more than once in high praise of our Parliamentary institutions; but he certainly could not have been satisfied with this miserable exhibition.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 18.

HOUSE OF LORDS. COLONIAL FORTIFICATIONS.

The Earl of CARNARVON, in directing attention to certain charges connected with colonial fortifications and defences, moved for copies of correspondence between her Majesty's Government and the Governor-General of Canada in reference to the Militia Bill passed by the Canadian Parliament, and stated his objections to the large increase of Imperial expenditure which had taken place for colonial fortifications, most of which he designated as useless.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE denied that there had been any increase of late in Imperial expenditure for colonial purposes of any kind. He regretted the decision of the Canadian Legislature, and assented to the motion.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH concurred in the observations of the noble Duke, and said that, however the war in America might terminate, he believed that Canada would be attacked by the American States sooner or later.

Some observations from the Earl of Powis and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe brought the discussion to a close, and the motion was agreed to.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill, the Election for Counties (Ireland) Bill, the Copyright Works of Art Bill, and the Gunpowder Act Amendment Bill, were severally read a third time and passed.

The Parochial Buildings (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The House went into Committee on the Lunatics Law Amendment Bill, and it passed through that stage. The Weights and Measures (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill passed through Committee. The remaining clauses of the Drainage (Ireland) Bill were passed through Committee, but on the preamble being put Mr. Butt raised an objection to going out of Committee until certain amendments which he proposed were considered at that stage; and a discussion was going on when, at four o'clock, the sitting was suspended.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

Mr. CLAY made an application to Mr. Lindsay to postpone his motion on the subject of the contest in America, which

Mr. LINDSAY declined to accede to, and shortly afterwards submitted a resolution to the effect that, in the opinion of the House, the States which had seceded from the Union of the Republic of the United States had so long maintained themselves under a separate and established Government, and had given such proof of their determination and ability to support their independence, that the propriety of offering mediation, with the view of terminating hostilities between the contending parties, was worthy of the serious and immediate attention of her Majesty's Government. The hon. gentleman, having given an historical narrative of the political history of the Northern and Southern States, proceeded to state that in his opinion it was to the interest of Great Britain, both politically and commercially, that the Federals and Confederates should form separate and independent republics. It was to our interest politically that this separation should take place, because it would check the overbearing and impetuous attitude of the Northern States; while in a commercial sense it would be advantageous, because the South would find it her interest to adopt a free-trade policy. He believed that France would heartily join us in an offer of mediation; but, however that might be, it was unaccountable to him that up to the present moment her Majesty's Government had taken no step in the matter. It now appeared clear that the South could not be subjugated. It was equally clear that it could not be brought back into the Union. He held, therefore, that the time had arrived when the South ought to be received into the family of nations.

Mr. P. TAYLOR opposed the motion, urging that, without any possible advantage, it would add to the feeling against this country which was felt in the North. The motion, when it spoke of mediation, meant recognition of the South, intervention in and war with America.

Lord A. V. TEMPEST denied that slavery had anything whatever to do with the quarrel, and contended that the maintenance of the Union would go further to perpetuate the system than anything else. To suppose that the North could bring back the Southern States into the Union was an utter

fallacy. It was, therefore, the duty of the British Government to support their mediation to put an end to the present disastrous state of affairs.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER deprecated foreign intervention as likely to do more harm than good. He desired to see mitigation. If we were to send the Northern States alone, they would probably and themselves resort to a tank too hard for them. President Lincoln had called for 40,000 additional troops to put down the insurrection. Without European intervention he might not get them; but, if we were to interfere, the South would be animated with fresh fire, and the call of the President would once responded to. While intervention would only excite more fighting in America, letting them alone would probably tend to bring even the South to a sense of the impossibility of rebellion, and the necessity of bringing war to a close.

Mr. WHITSTOCK argued that there was nothing in the original declaration of the United States to prevent any of the States from seceding from the Union, and, looking to the readiness with which States seceded from other nations had been received into the Union, he could not see why there should be an objection to any States setting up as a Republic for themselves, while the remarkable incompatibility between the North and South made secession probable.

Lord FAIRFAX very much regretted that Mr. Lindsay had introduced the subject in the present state of affairs. Only one wish was expressed in the country in reference to the war, and that was that it might be brought to a speedy termination. He very much doubted, however, whether intervention would not at the present moment increase instead of diminish the prospects of peace between the two parties. As yet the Congress had assumed such a character as would justify this country in saying that the independence of the Southern States was permanently and fully established. No one could doubt the vast importance to this country of a speedy termination of the war; but at the same time it was open to question whether irritating debates in Parliament were likely to lead to that result. He would not pledge himself to the future, as the events of the war prevented any definite conjecture as to the final issue of the contest; but he believed that the great majority of the public were of opinion that the Government had, up to the present time, pursued a wise and prudent policy by remaining strictly neutral. If, however, any favourable opportunity were to arise, her Majesty's Government would only be too happy to accept of their mediation.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD supported the motion, and observed that the nature of the contest demanded the intervention of a friendly neighbour. England. He considered that we would be wanting in our duty to our suffering operatives, and also to the interests of humanity, if we did not endeavour to put an end to this odious contest.

Mr. HOPWOOD appealed to the Government, in the name of justice, charity, and humanity, to take action in the matter.

Mr. LINDSAY declared himself satisfied with the discussion, and withdrew his motion.

MONDAY, JULY 21.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord ELMOR presented a petition from the Fellows of Colleges at the University of Cambridge, stating that, in their opinion, the provisions of the Act of Uniformity of Charles II., requiring a declaration of conformity to the Liturgy before admission to a fellowship, are injurious to the interests of the University, and praying for their repeal.

The Companies, &c., Bill was read a second time.
The Ha-hair Transfers Bill, the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Bill, and the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill were read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW ORLEANS.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD called attention to the want of the press in British interests at New Orleans, where there was a large amount of British property, and urged the Government to take immediate steps to secure direct communication with the authorities at Washington.

Mr. LAYARD said that it was intended to send a ship of war to New Orleans, but, for reasons to which he would not refer, the intention had been abandoned. The interests of British subjects were adequately represented by the Vice-Consul.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, proceeding with the Civil Service Estimates, and a number of votes were taken. The votes on the votes in Supply were gone through, and the estimates brought to a conclusion.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY AND THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

Lord ELMOR moved an address to her Majesty to issue a Royal Commission to inquire into the present position of the Royal Academy in relation to the fine arts, and into the circumstances and conditions under which it carried on a portion of the National Gallery, and to suggest such measures as might be required to render it more useful in promoting art and in improving the developing public taste. He explained his own views and the course suggested in the matter of the site of the Academy, and, with reference to the concluding terms of the motion, he adhered to the complaint against the Academy, for which, he thought, there must be some compensation, and to the failures in our public statues and monuments, arguing that there was sufficient ground for an inquiry whether the Royal Academy might not be made a much more useful and important body than it is.

Mr. COWPER said the reasons assigned by Lord Elcho for his not indisposed him to offer any opposition to it, and he was sure that the Royal Academy, which had the responsibility of a public corporation, would be loth to claim any exemption from public inquiry. He admitted that there were points in which the schools of the Royal Academy might be improved, and he thought its exhibition conferred very great benefit upon the public at large, and as to rewards of merit, that the present method was as good an arrangement as could be made. He trusted that the commission would serve a good purpose by closely investigating the details of management of the Academy and suggesting means by which its object might be better attained.

After a few remarks by Lord J. Manners the motion was withdrawn.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH AMERICA.

Mr. SCULLY called attention to the Imperial importance and the feasibility of establishing a postal and passenger intercourse between Europe and America by means of mail-steamer, to call regularly on alternate days at the port of Cork, with telegraphic communication off Crookhaven or Glenties, and asked the views of the Government with regard thereto.

Lord PALMERSTON said that there were, no doubt, great advantages in the proposition of the hon. member for Cork; but all he could say was that the general subject was under the consideration of the Government, and that matter would receive due attention.

THE COURT OF CHANCERY.

Mr. COX called attention to the general rules and orders of the High Court of Chancery issued by the Lord High Chancellor on the 16th of May, 1852, and moved that such rules and orders ought not to continue in force. He contended that such rules and orders were prejudicial to a large body of persons, without any benefit to the suitors or the public, and a large class would be thrown thereby upon the Suitors' Fee Fund.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL observed that it should be only in extreme cases that the House interfered in reviewing orders which the Judges of the Courts of Law thought would promote the interests of justice. They could have no other motive, and the House would do wisely to listen with jealousy to the complaints of parties (the law-stationers) whose pockets happened to be touched by the substitution of printed for written documents.

Upon a division the motion was negatived by 31 to 26.

INDIAN FINANCE.

Mr. AYRTON called attention to the large balances held in India and in England on account of the Government of India, and to the manner in which the finance accounts for India, laid before the House, were made up, and asked the Secretary of State for India whether any part of the balances would be applied towards the repayment of the loans by means of which the balances have been increased; and whether the finance accounts would be made up in a clearer manner.

Sir C. WOOD said that all the information required was before the House, and easily accessible and intelligible if rightly consulted; and it was to be formed laid down by a Committee of the House.

THE FORTIFICATIONS BILL.

The Fortifications (Provision for Expenses) Bill, as amended, was considered.

Sir F. SMITH moved a reduction of £12,000 in the amount for land defences.

On a division the amendment was lost by 73 to 44.

Other amendments were made, the report received, and the bill ordered to be read a third time.

TUESDAY, JULY 22.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY moved the second reading of the Thames Embankment Bill, and very briefly dwelt on the advantages the measure, if passed, would confer.

The Duke of BUCKLEIGH had no intention of opposing the bill, and never wished to oppose the embankment of the Thames, which he considered was a work of very great importance. He entered into a long explanation regarding the loss of Montagu House, and said that the Crown lessees had petitioned not against the embankment, but against the proposed railway which it was proposed to carry between their houses and the river.

Lords Derby, Granville, Malmesbury, Rosedale, and Llanover having made some remarks,

The bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Report of the Committee of Supply was brought up and agreed to after a short discussion.

The Fortifications (Provision for Expenses) Bill, the Weights and Measures (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill, the Copyhold, &c., Commission

and the Local Government Supplemental (No. 2) Bill were read a third time and passed.

The Anti-Slavery Bill passed the Committee.

THE POST OFFICE EMPLOYEES.

Mr. BOWEN called attention to the grievances alleged to exist and complained by the persons employed in the Post Office department, and moved that it be moved for an inquiry into the subject next session. As a matter of time, he now moved for a Select Committee.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN of the Executive Council replied briefly to the detailed statement of Mr. BOWEN, expressing a hope that the House would not take the management of the hands of the Executive Government, who could get the services of competent persons to perform the duties properly at less expense than were received by those now in the service.

Mr. BOWEN observed that Mr. COX and Sir S. Northcote, Sir G. POWNALL, and Sir J. Lubbock.

THE DRAINAGE AND THE EXISTING DISTRESS.

Mr. VILLIERS moved for leave to bring in a bill to enable the boards of drainage in certain counties in England to meet any extraordinary demands of money. He did not mean to imply by this motion that the law was not adequate to meet the case, or that any further powers were necessary to amend the law; but the measure he proposed was only a precautionary one against the necessity, and he proceeded to state facts that appeared to him to justify it. Looking to existing circumstances and to the principle of drainage law, which he mentioned a rate in aid, he proposed by the bill to extend that principle, so that any parish or parishes overburdened by extraordinary local distress and peculiarly liable to drain from the common fund of the nation, or under certain circumstances, one and a half, and for a contribution from the other two-thirds in the county. He explained the principal elements of the bill, and proposed to continue for a limited term—the 1st of March.

Mr. PATER said he was so convinced of the expediency of the case and of the necessity of something being done before Parliament separated, that he was prepared to consider with the greatest favour any proposition of the Government for relieving the suffering districts, and would readily signify his opinion of his own as to the remedies. He hoped the Government would not consider that another alternative, the borrowing money on the security of the rates, would interfere with their measure.

Mr. BOWEN could not come from the House that the change proposed by the bill was a most portentous one, and he did not think Mr. VILLIERS had laid any ground for this departure from the recognized law. He believed that the rate in aid was not nearly so high as in many of those cases south of England. The best mode of meeting the emergency, in his opinion, was to raise by the local law.

A few remarks were made by Mr. HUBERT and Mr. A. Egerton. Mr. GIBBS observed that, looking to the actual and increasing distress in Lancashire, Government would have failed in their duty if they had not taken steps to meet the emergency.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN explained the scope of the measure, remarking that the Government would have been culpable if they had allowed Parliament to separate without providing some means of meeting aggravated distress in the districts.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

RIGHT-POACHING PREVENTION BILL.

Mr. B. LEIGHTON moved that the House do go into Committee on this bill. Mr. G. GREY said that extensive notices of amendment had been given which, he thought, would greatly improve the bill. It was unjust to him to say that he wished to throw his shield over poachers, but he could not help thinking that the greatest evils of poaching arose from an undue preservation of game.

Mr. PATER moved, as an amendment, that the House go into Committee on the bill this day three months.

Mr. HENLEY seconded the amendment, believing it to be very inexpedient that the police should be in any way mixed up with game preserving.

Mr. Stanley and Mr. Walter opposed the bill, which was supported by Mr. Keble and Lord Grey de Wilton.

On a division, the motion for going into Committee on the bill was carried by a majority of 139 to 49.

In the course of a long discussion which ensued upon the first clause, several verbal amendments were proposed, but rejected. The further consideration of the bill was adjourned.

THURSDAY, JULY 24.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The following bills were read a third time and passed—viz., Coal Mines, Loans and Improvement (Scotland), and Parochial Buildings (Scotland) bills. Several other bills were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

METROPOLITAN TURNPIKES.

Mr. WHITE asked what progress had been made towards effecting the abolition of metropolitan turnpikes?

Mr. G. GREY said he had received a communication from the Earl of Lyndoch, who was Chairman of the Metropolitan Turnpike Trust. A report on the subject would be submitted to Parliament early next Session.

TWENTY WITH BELGIUM.

Mr. W. FORSTER asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he could inform the House whether the Government had succeeded in negotiating a commercial treaty with Belgium, and, if so, on what terms; and whether any steps had been taken towards negotiating a commercial treaty with Italy?

Mr. LAZARUS was happy to state that the Government had succeeded in negotiating a commercial treaty with Belgium. The details he was not able to give at present, the treaty not having yet been formally ratified.

NEWS-PAPERS.

Mr. CHAFFER asked why the *House Telegraph*, published in the lobby several times in the course of the evening, being a news-paper, is not compelled to register and to enter into recognisances in accordance with the Act of 7 Wm. IV., c. 76, and the Act 60 Geo. III., c. 9?

Mr. FLETCHER said the Acts of Parliament defined what a newspaper was, but it was debatable whether the *House Telegraph* came under that definition.

UNION RELIEF AID BILL.

Mr. PATER and Colonel W. Patten recommended more energetic measures than those set forth in the bill.

Mr. STANLEY thought that as the measure was one of detail it would be more properly discussed in Committee.

Mr. SIDNEY suggested that public aid should be brought to bear on the existing distress. It was disagreed, he thought, on the part of the Legislature to allow the poor to be dependent on private benevolence. He considered half a million sterling should at once be raised in Lancashire. He thought the general principle of the bill was in the right direction, but required much amendment.

Mr. HENLEY hoped that neither in this bill nor in any other measure they might adopt they would affirm any false principle. In voting for the second reading of this bill he understood that the House would be only affirming the necessity of a rate in aid, without pledging itself to any details.

Mr. CORNELL thought that the present and the impending state of things was not sufficiently understood in the House, and that the parishes on which it was proposed to levy extra rates would not be able to pay them. He considered that the law of Elizabeth was not at all applicable to the present state of affairs, and he hoped that nothing would be done to cripple the operation of the cotton-mills in Lancashire, the owners of which were not so rich as had been represented. The present state of things he feared was more likely to be permanent than temporary, and he thought there ought to be a rate in aid, according to the wishes of the communities of the various districts. He thought no man ought to be called pauper who was brought to destitution by the blockade of the ports of the Southern States of America, and trusted none of those men in Lancashire who were suffering great misery would stint their children or punish their wives by abstaining from appealing for parish relief, to which they were justly entitled. He suggested that the Government might adopt measures for lending money to such men who, directly the tall chimneys began to smoke and the machinery to work, would be able to get 40s. or 50s. a week, and would gladly repay the money.

Mr. BOUVIER objected to loans, which he thought were the last means that should be resorted to.

In the course of some further discussion,

Mr. VILLIERS expressed his gratification at the general assent given to the principle of his measure, and said he should be most happy to consider many of the suggestions made, and, if possible, to adopt them, when the House went into Committee upon the bill. The state of things in the manufacturing districts was exceptional, and therefore the remedy proposed might be accepted as exceptional. There was no doubt of the prevalence of the most appalling distress; and he submitted it was the duty of the Government and of the House before the session closed to do everything in their power to alleviate it. It was with that view he submitted the present bill for their consideration, and he hoped they would consent to discuss its provisions in Committee on Monday next.

The bill was ultimately read a second time.

Several other bills upon the paper were advanced a step.

AUSTRIA AND THE ZOLLVEREIN.—A despatch from Berlin announces that Prussia has, upon the part of the Zollverein, rejected the proposal of Austria to become a member of that body under the conditions for which the Carlsbad Convention had stipulated. The reason for the rejection is assumed to be, mainly, because Prussia is determined to carry through her commercial engagements with France, against which Austria—in her proposal—had set her face.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PRINCE OF WALES'S TOUR IN THE EAST.

It was certainly a most happy thought to provide a photographic artist to accompany the Prince of Wales upon his tour to the East, to Egypt, and the many places of deep historical and sacred interest in the Holy Land rarely seen by Europeans. From time to time we have had photographs of the Great Pyramids, the colossal figures of Memnon, the Sphinx, and the vast plains of the Desert, all more or less accurately representing the peculiar characteristics of the Eastern landscape, and the wonderful ruins of the sculpture and architecture of a great nation existing thousands of years before the Christian era; but these photographs by Mr. F. Bedford far surpass anything that has hitherto been produced.

Mr. Bedford had attained a high reputation for his photographs of English landscape before he received the command of the Prince of Wales to accompany the Royal suite; and the collection of pictures, for so we may fairly pronounce them to be, which is now exhibited is a satisfactory proof that the selection of this gentleman as the artistic recorder of the Prince's tour was most fortunate. The photographs we have hitherto seen of the East have generally been deficient in half tints and in aerial effect, while a general blackness of tint seemed to be unavoidable. Whether this was to be attributed to the peculiar light in the desert, or to the difficulty of operating successfully under a burning sun, we are not able to say, but every one must have remarked this black and white appearance of most photographs taken in Egypt and the East generally. However this may be, Mr. Bedford has certainly succeeded in producing a series of photographs quite equal to any he has ever done. Another excellent quality in Mr. Bedford's work is that it is generally artistic in treatment, and this is important when the photographs are intended, as these are, to serve as accurate pictorial illustrations.

The series consists of 172 photographs, beginning with views in Cairo, and proceeding in the course of the Prince's voyage up the Nile, first to the Pyramids of Ghizeh, that is, the well-known Great Pyramid and the Sphinx; then to the Temples of Philæ and Edfon. Thebes and the ruins of Karnak form a splendid section of the Egyptian part of the journey, with the gigantic Memnonium, and the prostrate Colossus, the vocal Memnon, the Colonnade of the Temple of Medinet Habon, and the grand ruined palaces of the ancient Pharaohs. Next to these come the views of the Holy Land, all interesting as connected with the events of sacred history. The views of Jerusalem are very remarkable; they give a far more perfect idea than any painted pictures, unless it be some of the minutely-faithful drawings of Mr. Holman Hunt, of which they forcibly reminded us, the view of the Mount of Olives especially. Amongst these views, those of the Garden of Gethsemane, of which there are two extremely perfect representations, will be regarded with the greatest interest. Here are the olive-trees with strange old trunks that have survived who shall say how long.

Damascus furnishes several extremely picturesque photographs, and here was taken a portrait of the famous Abd-el-Kader. Baalbek is nicely represented by a superb set of pictures taken from every part, all excellent for the well-chosen points of view and the perfection of the architectural ornament. From this the series leads us to Tripoli, Lebanon, Durazzo, to Corfu, where we begin to feel at home at the sight of the English fleet and European houses. Of Constantinople there are many views, and the collection is completed with twelve views of Athens, showing the Erechtema and the Parthenon, with those portions of the frieze preserved still in the ruins. The Prince of Wales and suite are only once taken in the views, and that is at Thebes in the interior of the ruined Temple of Karnak, where his Royal Highness is seated on an immense block of stone, part of the fallen temple, with Colonel Keppel and General Bruce, deceased since his return, on his right and left, and other members of the party seated about on the sand or pieces of columns. There is, however, one special portrait-group placed in the room in Bond-street which does not belong to the series about to be published, and which represents the Prince and suite at luncheon, seated under a large fig-tree and habited in true Eastern travellers' costume. We understand that his Royal Highness visited the gallery on Tuesday morning, when it was opened for the private view, and expressed his high approval of these most interesting pictures.

SCIENTIFIC BALLOON EXPERIMENTS.

MR. GLAISHER, of the Royal Observatory, ascended last week from Wolverhampton in a balloon to make, at a high elevation in the atmosphere, certain meteorological observations for the balloon committee of the British Association. The ascent was made by Mr. Coxwell, the proprietor of the balloon, who has constructed it at the suggestion of the committee. The machine will contain more gas by 14,000 ft. than the great Nautilus balloon, and its buoyancy is such as to be able to ascend to a height of 10,000 ft. of gas being passed into it. Room was thus left for expansion in the rarified atmosphere. The leading objects sought to be ascertained were—first, the law of the decrease of temperature in proportion to elevation; and, secondly, the distribution of moisture throughout the atmosphere. To enable the observations to be made a very complete set of instruments was taken up, some of which had been made under Mr. Glaisher's direction especially for the occasion.

Many very interesting observations were made by Mr. Glaisher during the hour and a half or two hours that he was in the air.

The balloon left the earth at 9.43 a.m., with the barometer at 29.56, and the temperature 55 deg. At 9.47 they got a temperature of 45 deg. At this time the air was dry, and the temperature began to decrease, till at two minutes after ten it was 26 deg. The sun was then shining on the balloon with great brilliancy. At three minutes after ten, when Mr. Glaisher and his aeronaut (Mr. Coxwell) were about two miles high, they heard the strains of a band of music. At the same time they got a peep at the earth, and the sight was most pleasing. Even with the naked eye the fields looked like a tessellated pavement, possessing a combination of beautiful colours, and the roadways were so sharply and clearly defined as though the observers had been but a little height over them. Gazing through the thin attenuated air at this altitude did not present the difficulties which were offered by the thicker stratum below. In five minutes the temperature began to increase to 31 deg., and at a quarter past ten it was 37 deg. On starting Mr. Coxwell's pulse was beating at 75 and Mr. Glaisher's at 76, but at this time (10.16) Mr. Coxwell's had risen to 86, and Mr. Glaisher's to nearly 100. At this time the gas in the balloon, which previously had been opaque, became perfectly transparent, and, the neck being open, Mr. Glaisher could see right through the gas to the top of the balloon. The proportions of the machine were observed to be accurate, and the netting hung tightly around it. Here also a striking change was observed in the surrounding scenery. From the pale light blue colour of the sky below that which now surrounded them was an intensely deep Prussian blue. The cumuli clouds far below were very rocky in appearance, and the sun was shining upon their surfaces. The strati cloud was then at the same elevation as the balloon. The barometer at this time read 16 inches; and the temperature, continuing slowly to increase, was 38 deg. at 10.30. Now the barometer was reading less than 15 inches, showing that the aeronauts were nearly four miles high. Here palpitation of the heart was very susceptible, so much so that each man could hear the beating in the breast of the other. The ticking, too, of Mr. Glaisher's watch was remarkably loud, reverberating like a chronometer beating upon a sounding-board, and the rustling occasioned by the turning over the leaves of his notebook represented the rustling of a high wind. At 10.35 the temperature had increased to 42 deg., and they were at a height of four miles. Here the air was very dry. At this time it was remarked that the hands were dark blue, and the lips also blue, but not the face. Now the temperature began to decrease with wonderful rapidity. In four minutes it was reduced to 36 deg., and by 10.47 it was down to 31 deg. At 11.1 the highest elevation was reached. The barometer reading a little above 11 inches, it was evident that the voyagers had ascended to nearly five miles. Here the temperature was 16 deg., and the breathing, which was observed to be interfered with when heart palpitation commenced, again became affected. A deep blue sky was to be seen at this point, with clouds below, and the cold was felt. At 10.57 the feeling of sea-sickness, with its uncomfortable manifestations, came over Mr. Glaisher, and at 11.7 the same feeling returned, but it was not so prolonged in duration. Mr. Glaisher had been warned that at this height blood would issue from the nose, that the eyes would be affected, and there would be a tingling in the ears; but in neither the case of Mr. Coxwell nor himself were either of these manifestations perceived. Mr. Coxwell only found it necessary to throw on one additional coat while they were up, and Mr. Glaisher, after wrapping a cloak around him for a short while, soon threw it off. The fingers were not numb, nor were either of the voyagers uncomfortably cold. During the last mile there was the extraordinary change of 26 deg. in the temperature. On the earth, it will be remembered, it was 55 deg.; at half a mile it was 45 deg.; at less than a mile it was 43 deg.; it then decreased to 26 deg.; at about two miles it increased constantly till the height of four miles was reached, when it was 12 deg.; and between four and five miles it rapidly decreased from 12 deg. to 16 deg. The air was dry throughout. At the highest elevation it was 50 deg. below zero. No dew was deposited. The dry bulb read 16 deg., and the wet bulb 9 deg. Reynaud's

hygrometer at zero had no dew; nor had Daniel's hygrometer any dew at 8 deg. below zero. No dew could be deposited at this elevation at either of the hygrometers.

At half-past eleven Mr. Coxwell became uneasy as to their position in relation to the coast, and at 11.42, when they were above the clouds, the earth was visible, and the West in the distance. The voyagers then brought their balloon and themselves down as quickly as possible. In descending the shadow of the balloon was seen on the clouds, and it continued to increase as the clouds were near. In passing through the cloud the balloon could not be seen from the earth, so dark was it. The spot at which terra firma was again touched was a meadow near the boundary of the parishes of Langham and Aswell, in Rutlandshire.

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

IN the Union of Ashton-under-Lyne there are nearly five times as many "paupers"—if that hard word must be used—as there were last year, and four times as many as in the last time four years ago. For nine months the number of "paupers" has gone on increasing week by week, and at the last return there were 10,231. In Blackburn Union there were at the last return 11,435 "paupers," which is more than four times as many as there were last year, and nearly three times as many as in the last time of 1858. In Burnley Union the number is getting on towards three times as many as last year, and is more than half as many again as in the distress of 1858. There are 229 "paupers" in the Bury Union there are only rather more than twice as many "paupers" as last year, but the number is steadily increasing. It is now 4975. In Haslingden Union there were at the last date more than twice as many as last year. In the township of Manchester at the last date there were 15,988 "paupers"—getting fast on towards three times the number of last year and nearly twice as many as in the distress of 1858. The number is fast approaching that of the aggregate of persons aged twenty and upwards engaged in cotton manufacture at the last Census. In the Union of Oldham there are 2245 "paupers," about twice as many as last year. In Preston Union there are 12,293 "paupers"—four times as many as last year and nearly three times as many as in the distress of 1858. In Rochdale Union there were 1252 "paupers"—more than twice as many as last year. In Stockport Union there were at the last return 6051 "paupers"—more than four times as many as last year and twice as many as in the distress of 1858. We have omitted many unions in which the number of "paupers" is not quite twice as many as last year. The numbers are exclusive of lunatics in asylums and vagrants. Yet in the twenty-five unions embracing the manufacturing districts there are, or were at the last return, more than 150,000 "paupers," of whom at least 70,000 are persons to whom it is quite a new thing to find themselves in that miserable case, who managed to get through the last time of 1858 clear of that stigma, and as late as last year could hardly imagine that they would one day be driven by fell necessity to join the wretched crowd of applicants gathered at the door of the work-house and marshalled by rough officials to take their turn before the board.

MR. THURLOW WELD ON EUROPEAN OPINION.—A letter is published which Mr. Thurlow Weld has written to the municipality of New York upon the relations of America with foreign countries. Mr. Weld says that before the breaking out of the war in America Secessionist emissaries had been busily engaged in poisoning the minds of people in Europe against the North. This had gone so far that even Mr. Gladstone had been deceived by it. Mr. Weld does not believe that either France or England will intervene in the war. France is, he says, more impatient than England, because the Emperor assumes in the absence of employment to supply his people with food. The North have, however, nothing to fear if they are successful in the prosecution of the war. He thinks, however, there are too well-founded reasons for apprehending future embroilment with England. The Trent affair has left "the arrow with poisoned barb festering in our (the American) flesh and irritating our nerves." In view of dangers of this kind it behoves, he says, the press and all classes of society in both countries to exercise due moderation.

LORD RANELAGH AND THE WAR OFFICE.—Lord Ranelagh has been censured by the Secretary of War. The War Office sent down Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to the late review at Finsbury to superintend it and report upon it. The report of his reception by Lord Ranelagh was such that his Lordship was called upon for an explanation of what he had said, and done, and furnished it at some length, declaring that Colonel Morris had given an undue colouring to what took place. Sir George Lewis received the explanation, and ordered the Lord Lieutenant to censure Lord Ranelagh.

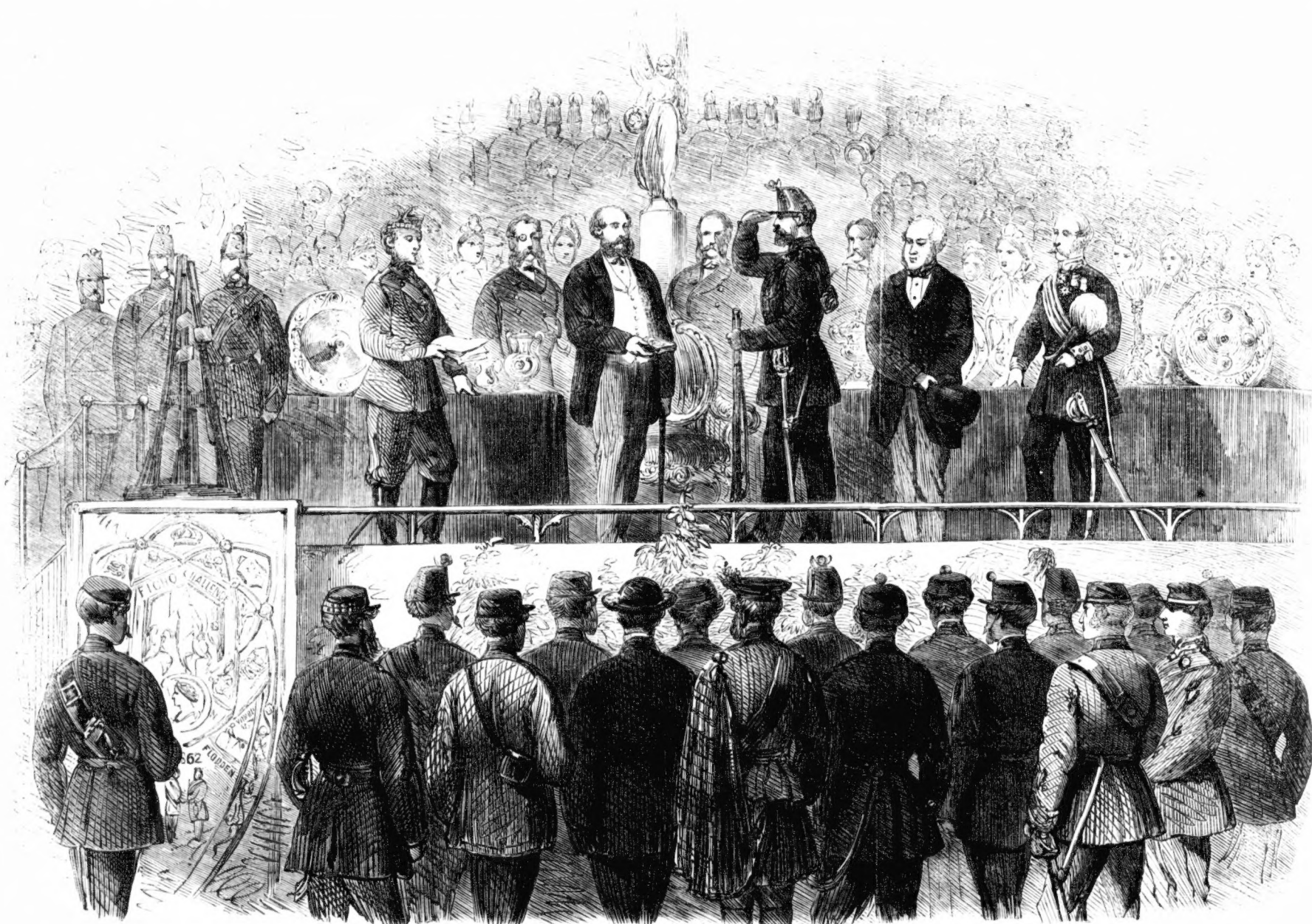
DISTRIBUTION OF RIFLE PRIZES AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

IN our last Number we gave a full account of the distribution of the prizes won in the recent rifle contest at Wimbledon. The distribution, as our readers will remember, took place at the Crystal Palace on Monday, the 11th inst., and was presided over by the Duke of Cambridge, the particulars concerning each prize and winner being called out, accompanied with appropriate explanations and remarks, by Lord Elcho. The ceremony was a very interesting one, and to the account of it given in the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES* last Saturday, the 19th, we refer, in explanation of the Engraving which we this week publish. Rifle competitions have now become important events in several parts of Europe. The German marksmen have just taken place at Frankfurt, in which the Swiss marksmen (almost entirely eclipsed in England) have been singularly successful, the leading prizes having been carried off by citizens of the Alpine Republic. Arrangements are now being made for a great rifle-match in France; and the Swiss Tir will also, we believe, be held shortly. A feeling of national pride is justifiable when we reflect that in our recent contest our own marksmen completely outshone all comers, such renowned shots as M. Jules Gérard occupying only a secondary place in the list of prize-winners; and this is the more satisfactory considering that rifle-shooting has only been introduced among us within the last two years, whereas some Continental nations have been in the habit of holding great competitions for a long period. May our volunteers and other marksmen always maintain their present pre-eminence for a clear eye and a steady hand! When our American brethren have got over the stern realities of war which now unhappily engross their energies, we shall be glad to welcome some of their famous shots among the competitors in future Wimbledon meetings, and are sure that our British riflemen will be delighted to have a friendly trial of skill with the celebrated marksmen of America.

BANQUET ON BOARD THE PACHA OF EGYPT'S YACHT.

THE Viceroy of Egypt gave a magnificent fête on board his yacht at Woolwich on Wednesday evening week. The whole of the space about the funnel of this beautiful yacht was changed, as if by some fairy of the flowers, into a conservatory which would excite the admiring envy of a Paxon. The whole of this after-deck was shut in with plants in full bloom: a rependent mass of colours, afforded by the grouping of pelargoniums, fuchsias, lilies, roses, and cinerarias, surrounded the mizen-mast. Here was placed a golden candelabrum; there a crystal tank, with gold and silver fish flashing through its clear waters, and with a cool and pleasant fountain splashing and murmuring with a grateful sound, stood in the midst of a circle of rich silken ottomans. Vines, laden to drooping with immense clusters of grapes, trailed over the framework of the awning, as if their growth on that support had been one of many years. Round the deck, at close intervals, were placed handsome circular seats, covered with scarlet moresco. The broad flight of stairs leading down with a sweep right and left to the grand saloon was inclosed in balustrades of crystal, and was carpeted with a three-pile tapestry, into which the feet sank with luxurious noiselessness. Below, the reception of the guests was yet more lavishly magnificent. The decorations of the table, even putting out of question the plate, which is said to have been worth a million sterling, were of almost unprecedented beauty. Six noble pineapples, the perfection of shape and colour, seemed to have been placed along the princely board only that they might be cast into comparative insignificance by a seventh, the largest in its circumference and length, and the weightiest by nearly a pound, that has ever been grown in England. There were covers for forty-eight guests, before each of whom was placed a novel service of silver, holding the wineglasses, the sweetmeats, the salads, and the minor concomitants of the dinner-table which would be required by every person. Three silver pillars supported the ceiling of the state cabin, and the upper halves of these, appearing above the table down the central line, had the look of springing from its surface. This deceptive effect was in a measure assisted by a base of flowers in closely-arranged pots which stood round each of the three silver shafts.

The Viceroy has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Geographical Society.



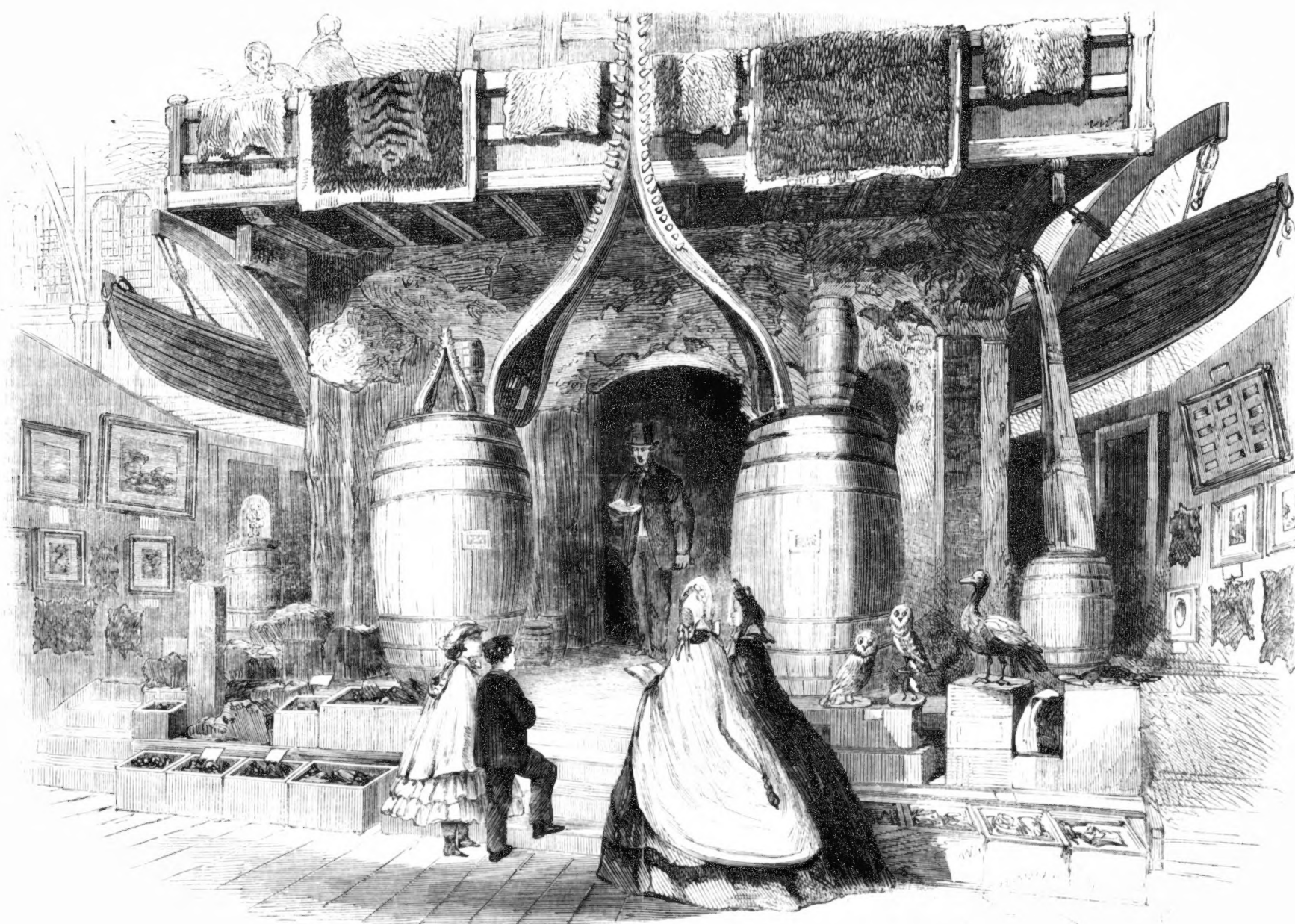
THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE DISTRIBUTING THE PRIZES TO THE SUCCESSFUL COMPETITORS AT THE WIMBLEDON RIFLE-SHOOTING CONTEST IN THE CRYSTAL PALACE.



THE PACHA OF EGYPT'S ENTERTAINMENT OF BOARD THE FAÏD GHAAD,—SCENE ON DECK AFTER THE DEJEUNER.



AMATEUR PIPEMAKING AT THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.—T. C. REYNOLDS' STALL.



THE TASMANIAN COURT IN THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

THE ATTENDANCE.

THE International Exhibition building on Monday presented a very exciting scene. The numbers present were in excess of any previous day, being close upon 68,000. Among the visitors were a great number of artisans, soldiers with their wives and families, and children from several of the metropolitan and other schools. The expenses of their visit were contributed by their employers and other warmhearted persons interested in their welfare, and but for whose beneficence the greater part could not have seen the numerous wonders in the World's Fair, the inspection of which so patently afforded them the utmost delight.

THE PROCESSES COURT.

The "Processes Court," near the Pottery Court, is a never-failing source of attraction. Here there is, besides the exceedingly interesting pipe manufactory of Mr. J. G. Reynolds (of which we this week give an engraving), a number of processes which are well worth seeing. Mrs. Lavinia Jones, of Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts, shows her miniature Albion printing-press, which she hopes to introduce, not merely as a source of amusement in parlours or libraries, but as a means of inducing ladies to learn typography, so that they may, if cast upon the world, have a resource against starvation in their own exertions.

Opposite this little stand Messrs. Day, Lincoln's-inn-fields, exhibit the processes of chromo-lithography as applied to the production of some views of the exhibition. Messrs. J. and H. Robinson and Co., Cheap-side, have at work a silk velvet loom capable of producing but half a yard per day of fine velvet. It seems strange that with all the advance in mechanical science there has never yet been produced a silk velvet loom capable of throwing its own shuttle and cutting the pile of the web. Messrs. Finches make and sell medals by a powerful press, and Messrs. H. Milward and Sons show by models and samples the process of needlemaking. Messrs. Kennan and Sons have among other machines a sculpturing machine at work, and right well it seems to serve its purpose; and all over the court there are sewing-machines, the mere enumeration of the proprietors or inventors of which would occupy more space than we can spare. To the uninitiated each sewing-machine seems twin-brother to its neighbour.

THE BRITISH AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The mineral products of New South Wales form a very magnificent display. In gold especially the colony is very strong. The small case that faces the nave contains some splendid nuggets and samples of gold in quartz and in a manufactured state. The new Australian sovereign, which it is proposed to make a legal tender in this country, is shown alongside its English namesake.

The iron ores of the colony are chiefly brown hematite and magnetic iron ore; they are very widely distributed. These ores differ very much from ordinary ironstones, as they can be reduced by fuel alone, without the addition of any flux; the earthy matters of the ore form a fusible slag without admixture.

The coals of New South Wales are of the true carboniferous series, and are not lignites belonging to the more recent formations, the qualities of which are always very inferior to those of the true coal. The quality of the Australian coal is of vast importance, as the coal-fields are the largest in the world, excepting those of the United States. In New South Wales they extend more than 500 miles along the coast, and the mines are in many cases so advantageously situated that by means of railways the coals can be run on board the vessels in the same manner as on the Tyne and at Sunderland, the coal in many cases being seen in natural sections on the cliffs of the seacoast. The deepest shaft in the colony is that of the Tomago Company—365ft.

In variety of woods New South Wales occupies a very prominent place in the exhibition, while the quality of many of them, both for cabinet and hardwood purposes, has been proved to be most excellent. The woods exhibited embrace 300 specimens of the varieties which are most abundant in both the northern and southern districts.

The woods exhibited are very fine in quality, while the manufactured articles leave no doubt of the superiority of the texture into which they can be wrought. Wool is one of the main staples of the colony, and the export is each year increasing.

The stuffed specimens of alpacas present a most interesting appearance and indicate a source of vast wealth. Their wool is valuable, and their tallow superior to that of the ox or the sheep.

Of cottons and silks there are some good specimens shown. On the former competent judges pronounce most highly, estimating some at the present time to be worth 4s. per lb., it being superior to anything they have ever seen.

In regard to cereal productions, New South Wales labours under many disadvantages. The high price of labour, the necessity for the preliminary clearing of the land, the fact that there is no near market for a surplus, and the difficulty of storing corn uninjured from one season to another, are all discouragements to its growth. Nevertheless, a vast amount is grown, and of very superior quality. The heaviest sample of wheat shown weighs 68lb. to the bushel; a very pure yellow, a very fine sample, 65lb. The maize shown is magnificent, both in quality and size, the produce being as large as 100 bushels to the acre. Beans have nearly doubled their size since their introduction into the colony, the last crop yielding nearly 42 bushels of 71lb. per acre.

The vegetable fibres of New South Wales are particularly interesting. The large-leaved nettle-tree (*Urtica gigantea*) furnishes the fibre of which the aborigines make their nets and lines, and offers an unlimited supply of bark, which requires only to be crushed or beaten to be fit for use, and the brown kurrajong is stronger than flax.

The wines are very promising, and among the miscellaneous products we were remarkably struck with some essential oils. The otto of the *Eucalyptus citriodora* is evidently very valuable as a perfume, whilst the boots and bookbinding would do credit to any London house.

VICTORIA.

Victoria, like her neighbour New South Wales, is especially fortunate in the possession of a vast supply of useful woods. She has sent over 417 samples of timber, chiefly in slabs 8ft. long and 4in. thick, the width being the diameter of the tree, some even extending to 5ft. For purposes of utility the red and blue gums, and the stringy bark, all Eucalypti, and the iron bark, are the most esteemed; and amongst the ornamental timbers the oak, light wood, Murray pine, Myall, the colonial cedar, which combines the utility of deal with the beauty of mahogany, and myrtle, hold the first rank. The value of these furniture-woods may be judged from the very elegant case of cabinet-work placed outside the court for the reception of the specimens of gold; this is constructed of black wood, red gum, and Murray pine.

In connection with the timber, samples of the resins of the Eucalypti, or gum-trees, are shown, and of the essential oils yielded by them. These latter, which can be obtained in almost unlimited quality, would be valuable as solvents for resins, and for other similar purposes.

In heavy wheat Victoria surpasses all other countries. One sample is shown which weighed over 69lb. per bushel in Melbourne, and which has been again weighed in the Exhibition building and was found to be 68lb. 8oz.; and there are oats whose weight is 49lb. per bushel. After these quotations it is unnecessary to say more than that the samples of grain are truly magnificent.

The casts of fruits prove that our edible vegetables also flourish, potatoes of three pounds and apples as large as a child's head serve to show the fertility of the soil.

In wools the colony makes a grand show. As though proud of their wealth and superiority in this important article, the commissioners have erected a high triumphal arch of bales under which the representatives of beaten nations must pass. Their merino wools are especially fine, and of the amount produced in the colony it is sufficient to state that Messrs. Tondcar exhibit samples of the wool of thirty growers, the owners of nearly one million sheep, and occupiers of one million and a half acres of pasture land. The im-

portance of Victorian wools may be estimated from the fact that in 1860 the quantity of wool exported amounted to twenty-four million pounds, in value upwards of two million pounds sterling; and that since 1836 we have received wool to the value of eighteen millions sterling from that colony. This is the more surprising, when we bear in mind the fact that in the last-mentioned year the population consisted of only 177 Europeans. Perhaps no colony ever had so rapid a growth as Victoria. In 1861 the estimate of the population was—males, 313,318; females, 207,361; total 520,679; of which about 35,000 were Chinese, working at the gold diggings. As in New South Wales, the alpaca promises to become a valuable animal; and the Angora goat, with long silky hair, thrives exceedingly well.

Casks of very superior salted mutton are shown, the value of which in the colony is about 2d. per pound. The energy and enterprise of this rising colony is evidenced by the fact that there are forty classes in the catalogue, and that Victoria supplies exhibitors in thirty-five out of that number.

TASMANIA.

The minerals exhibited in the Tasmanian Court are chiefly interesting as indicating the future resources of that rising colony. The attention of the geologist and the enlightened political economist would always, in the first instance, be turned towards the supply of the true bases of national wealth—namely, coal and iron, compared with which gold and precious stones are but secondary considerations. Fortunately for the prospective prosperity of Tasmania, both coal and iron are abundant. Anthracite, or smokeless coal, abounds at the southern extremity of the island, and is so superficially situated that it is easily worked; whilst bituminous coal of various qualities, belonging both to the caking and non-caking varieties, and adapted for the various purposes of the gasmaker, engineer, metallurgist, and general manufacturer, is found in seams varying from twenty inches to twelve feet in thickness. Iron ore, of that extremely valuable and pure character known as brown hematite, is also abundant. This ore is a nearly pure peroxide, or rust of iron, and can consequently be reduced to the metallic state by fuel alone, without the troublesome and expensive employment of fluxes necessary to cause the fusion of the earthy impurities. The conjunction of these two minerals, coal and iron ore, argues well for the progress of Tasmania. We should allow a very false idea to go forth, however, if it should be imagined from our description that they constitute the entire mineral wealth of the country. Lead ore, of that variety known as Galena, a compound of sulphur and lead, is abundant, and good samples of it are exhibited. A specimen of from thirty to forty ounces in weight demonstrates the existence of gold, which now seems to be found almost universally distributed throughout the older geological formations.

Precious stones, both rough and manufactured into articles of jewellery, are exhibited by Dr. Milligan, one of the commissioners for the colony. Some of these are of unrivalled beauty, among which we may indicate the jacinths, which are superior to any in our National Museum in Great Russell-street; topazes, white, blue, and pink, all of magnificent brilliancy; cairngorms, eye-opals, and many others.

The timber of Tasmania occupies a prominent position in the space allotted to the island; the trophy displaying the more important woods is a conspicuous object from the eastern dome; it displays not only the recently-cut woods, felled unfortunately at a bad season of the year, but also samples that have been in use, some even as long as forty years, selected to show their durability under the most trying circumstances. Old planks forming part of the wharves of Hobart Town, that had been acted upon by salt water twice daily for twenty-one years, are exhibited to prove the resistance of the timber to the combined influences of heat, air, and saline moisture; and portions of a vessel built of Tasmanian timber that was stranded fourteen years since are displayed to bear witness to the same facts.

One of the most extraordinary timbers of Tasmania is the blue gum, which it is suggested would be found far superior to oak in shipbuilding; its cohesive power is nearly three times as great, being 29,431b. per square inch, whereas that of oak is under 10,000lb. So elastic is it that a rod will recover its straightness after bearing a transverse strain that would break an equal-sized bar of oak. Blue gum is a tough wood, not liable to splinter, and hence is admirably adapted for resisting cannon-balls. This toughness is evidenced by the upper two inches from the head of a pile that had received 200 blows with a ram weighing 21 hundredweight, falling from a height of 27 feet. This wood, so little liable to injury from concussion, must be valuable for all railway purposes, and the samples have been sent over to the exhibition with the desire of attracting the attention of railway engineers to its value for such uses.

The products of the whale fishery form a very interesting part of the Tasmanian trophy. The lower jaws of the sperm whale give a good idea of the size of the animal; two are exhibited. One of the whales to which the jaws belonged produced £1150 worth of oil, the other £900. The whaling-boats suspended from the trophy are complete in all the appliances necessary to secure these gigantic prizes.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

The price of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES henceforth will be 3d. each copy, or, free by post, 4d.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

(In all cases to be paid in advance.)

Stamped Edition, to go free by post.

Three Months, 4s. 4d.; Six Months, 8s. 8d.; Twelve Months, 17s. 4d.

Post Office Orders to be made payable to Thomas Fox, Strand Branch.

Four Stamps may be sent for Single Copies.

Office, 2, Catherine-street, Strand, W.C.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1862.

THE COTTON FAMINE.

THE pressure of the "cotton famine" upon the manufacturing counties is rapidly awakening that degree of national interest—philanthropic, legislative, and popular—which its importance demands. In Parliament the question of a "rate in aid" has already been opened, and it has been stated that the yet unrepaid Act of Elizabeth whereby such rate, levied from surrounding districts, may be collected to support a temporary local deficiency, has recently been carried into effect in another case, thereby proving that its provisions have not been rendered obsolete by the progress of three centuries. The question has been proposed whether the exigencies of the occasion do not call for a brief assemblage of Parliament in November next—a suggestion which, so far as we have seen, has only elicited surprise that the custom of our modern days, when travelling is so cheap and swift, should not have already adapted itself in this respect to concurrent political requirements. A meeting has been held at Bridgewater House, at which the landed gentry of the distressed counties, Lancashire especially, were numerous and influentially represented, and at which the matter was discussed in a benevolent and practical spirit. From the statements there made, as from other sources, we learn that the distress is rapidly increasing. In the four

unions of Blackburn, Ashton-under-Lyne, Preston, and Manchester, the number of paupers has increased since November last from 14,278 to 48,956, thus more than trebling itself in the summer as compared with the winter. With respect to the deposits in the savings-banks, the excess of withdrawals at Preston alone over the average of April preceding periods has been £17,000. With true perception of the exigencies of the case, the Earl of Derby announced that the object in raising funds would be, not that of affording relief to paupers, but that of relieving by private charity those still struggling to preserve their independence and to prevent their coming into the list of paupers. "Indirectly, of course," added his Lordship, "this would tend to the relief of the ratepayer, but it would enable a large portion of those on the verge of suffering to keep their heads above water and maintain the position which they had hitherto held and desired to maintain."

In these few words is contained an argument upon which we have often insisted, as to the complete inapplicability of the poor laws to such cases as the present. It would, no doubt, be easy enough to stand idly looking on while half the useful population was degenerating into pauperism, and then to save the victims from absolute starvation by offering the barest solace of the workhouse, with its forced separation of families, its worse than penal fare, its deprivation of liberty and home, its stone-breaking and its oakum-picking. Then, indeed, the proposed rate in aid would not only be advisable but necessary. Nor would the pauperism end as it has begun, with the operative. Hundreds of small traders, ministering to their wants and comforts under ordinary circumstances, would consequently succumb not only to the pressure of the increased rate, but to the deprivation of the market for their commodities. The noble Earl is slightly in error when, as in the last sentence we have quoted, he puts the relief of the ratepayer in an anti-thesis to that of the almost overwhelmed poor, and answers, by way of a possible objection, the probability of doing good to two classes instead of one only. Why, the very withdrawal of the savings of these good people from their local banks is in itself a diminution of the available capital of the country, and a consequent restriction upon commerce and enterprise. It is misfortune enough that our industrious fellow-countrymen should be forced to feel the sharp pinch of necessity; but to convert whole districts of them into hopeless broken-spirited paupers would be a matter of something more than sympathy. It would be a national calamity, which, in one way or another, every one of us would be made to feel, not as a matter of sympathy only, but of pounds, shillings, and pence.

No extension of mere pauper relief ought to be thought of as an alleviation of such suffering as this, which results from national and political causes, as utterly distinguished from those individual hardships with which the poor laws were constructed to deal. Every Lancashire labourer who enters the union walls costs, or will cost, the country far more than would suffice to keep him outside. The sacrifice of his independence, of his home respect, of his family associations, the break up and sale of his "sticks" to beggarly broker-hurples, represent a charge on the wrong side of the national book to which his maintenance on gruel in a pauper's garb will bear but a small proportion. It becomes a national duty not to be satisfied with straining the poor laws to meet this difficulty, but to keep the poverty consequent upon the failure of work outside the pale of pauperism. This fact cannot be too strongly urged upon every one. We are too apt to prefer giving a needy suppliant a penny "to have done with him" to lending him may be a few shillings to set himself in a way of getting a living and making repayment, or to tide him over the "hard time." Also to consider our brethren in the great national family, as possessing distinctly individual interests, and to think that a great poverty, a hundred miles off, is not likely to produce an effect within our own doors; and to slight the misery which we do not see, if not with our own eyes, with those of our nearest, most influential, and most reliable friends. The very season proffers opportunities of enabling us to appreciate visibly the manufacturing distress as it actually exists. Let all who can spare the time just deduct a day or two from the autumnal trip, a few pounds destined to be spent in the weariness of the fag-end even of a holiday time, to a personal inspection of the hard case of these unfortunates. Let them behold the homes stripped bit by bit of all that rendered them endurable to these hard-faring people; let them watch the gaunt figures standing in idle groups about the once busy street, hungry, not only for the necessities of bodily life, but for that actual labour for lack of which the very soul sickens. Let them see the small shops closing one by one after the long, fruitless alternations of hopeless credit and absolute lack or denial of custom upon the only terms possible. When many of us have done this, then, and then only, will the crisis be thoroughly understood, and the hearts and hands of all England be thoroughly opened to deal with the difficulty.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—The annual meeting of the Archeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland was opened on Tuesday afternoon at Worcester. The visitors assembled at the Guildhall, which was beautifully decorated with flowers and flags. Lord Talbot de Malahide opened the proceedings by moving that Lord Lyttelton, who is Lord Lieutenant of Worcestershire, should take the chair. Lord Lyttelton suitably acknowledged the honour that had been conferred upon him. On behalf of the various public bodies in the county and city he bade the institute a hearty welcome. The Town Clerk then read an address from the Mayor and Corporation, after which Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, the High Sheriff, on behalf of the county, welcomed the institute, and was recorded by Sir John Pakington. Expressions of welcome followed from the Rev. Canon Wood, representing the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral; and Mr. Charles Hastings, on behalf of the Natural History Society. The Mayor, seconded by Mr. O. Morgan, M.P., thanked Lord Lyttelton for consenting to preside, and Lord Neaves, as president of one of the sections, also expressed to him the acknowledgments of the institute. The Mayor gave a breakfast on Wednesday morning, after which the several sections met, and there was an excursion to Pershore Abbey in the afternoon.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

It is not known that the Empress of the French will visit Scotland in the autumn.

THE COMTE DE PARIS AND THE DUC DE CHARTRES have arrived in London.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, who was to have gone to Brussels on Monday, has been again obliged to keep his room at Liezen. This time, however, the indisposition is said to be merely a cold, and not a renewal of his attack.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS LOUIS have not appeared much in public since their arrival at Darmstadt, but on the 25th they were present on a walk at the castle. Her Royal Highness wore all hearts by her civility of manner and by the graceful management of her stick.

THE PRINCESS CLOTILDE, wife of Prince Napoleon, has given birth to a son. The young Prince has received the names of Napoleon Victor Louis Frédéric.

THE SON OF THE PRINCE OF CAPUA, and cousin of the ex-king Louis II. of Naples, has taken service in the Italian Army.

THE KING OF ITALY has just conferred on Tamburini, the celebrated actor, the Cross of the Order of St. Maurice.

A SCOTCH GENERALIST has found out that the Empress Eugénie is the daughter of the throne of Mexico through her ancestors, the Spanish Bourbon-Parsons, who were descendants of Montezuma.

AFTER THE LABOURS OF THE Session are brought to a close it is stated that Premier will pay a visit to the Highlands of Scotland, taking up his abode at Tulcan Lodge, near Grantown, as the guest of Mr. Bess, M.P.

THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY'S WORKMEN have commenced to contribute weekly in aid of the distressed.

OVER 20,000 MEN have already this year emigrated from California to the United States.

MR. H. A. BRUCE, M.P., is writing the "Life and Letters of the late Lieutenant-General Sir William Napier," the historian of the Peninsula.

THE LOCAL JOURNALS state that the harvest has begun in the neighbourhood of Orleans and the plains of Beauce. In Perrier the crops are all in, and many farmers have already commenced threshing.

COLONEL COLE, the inventor of the revolver, died worth about £300,000. His manufactory at Hartford, United States, employs 1100 hands, and the works paid there amount to £10,000 per month.

A NEW FIBRE PLANT, called silkworm, or asclepias, which it is thought may be a substitute for the cotton plant, has been introduced into Canada from the Rocky Mountains.

THE MORMONS have organised those portions of the territory of Utah which they occupy into the "State of Deseret," and have appointed Brigham Young their Governor, and have elected senators and a representative to Congress.

THE WORK OF CONVERSION of the Royal Sovereign ship at Portsmouth Dockyard has been almost brought to a stand, owing to the rain existing as to the exact number and size of her shield-towers, and to the delay in her upper deck.

A BOILER EXPLODED on Wednesday in the boiler-works of Messrs. J. & C. Ashford and Co., Bethnal-green. Very considerable damage was done. Several persons were injured by the falling of the roof, and two were seriously hurt that they had to be removed to the London Hospital.

SIR CHARLES EASTLAKE has just bought Gainsborough's portrait of Mrs. Eastlake for the National Gallery, from Major Mair, the husband of Mrs. Eastlake's granddaughter, for 1000 guineas.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON, in his solicitude for the comfort of the poor classes, has decided that tobacco, at the reduced price of 4s. the cask, should be furnished to the almshouses and other similar charitable establishments for the use of the inmates.

CAPTAIN MOIR, of the Tenth, was last week presented by the Provost and magistrates of Haddington with the freedom of the burgh, as an expression of their admiration of his gallant and judicious conduct in the capture of the Southern Commissioners on board his ship.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE LONDON AND WESTMINSTER PARK have voted £100 for the relief of distress in Lancashire. At the half-yearly meeting of the bank the net profits were declared to be £121,583.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, to foster racing, has offered a prize of 100,000 francs, open to all nations; but it turns out that the date will be chosen our Derby and Ascot, so that our crack horses are virtually shut out.

THE NEW MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY AT CONSTANTINOPLE has received instructions to protest against any conference relative to the affairs of the Principality in which he is not invited to take part.

THE DUC DE PASSEGLER is said to have left memoirs which are continued to the last events of the day and which embrace forty volumes. This stupendous work is to be published at the expense of the author, who, it is said, has taken care that several copies of the memoirs are secured in security.

THE SECOND CHAMBER OF THE STATES GENERAL OF HOLLAND has fixed the sum of 600,000 as the amount of indemnity to be paid by the Government for each slave, without distinction of age or sex, in the abolition of slavery, which is to take place on July 1, 1864.

THE VIENNA JOURNALS announce the approaching publication of a pamphlet, in the French language, by the Duke of Modena. It is entitled "The Austrian Troops in Austria," and demands that Austria should continue to maintain them.

THE REPORT OF ENGLISH BOOKS to America has fallen off greatly during the current year, but the extra import duty of 25 per cent which Congress has just imposed is likely to extinguish the book trade with this country altogether.

THE PROPOSITION lately made to the United States by Mexico is announced to be thecession of Sonora, which adjoins California, in return for eight millions given to the Government of Juárez, the idea of a loan being abandoned.

A TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCH from Alexandria announces that Commodore de Lussac, Chief of the Staff of Admiral Bonard, left Singapore for Suez on the 16th of June, bringing the treaty of peace concluded with the Government of Osman Pasha.

THE FOLLOWING TOAST was recently drunk with "applause and satisfaction" in New York:—

May the loss of England never be
May the loss of Scotland never be
May the loss of Ireland never be
May the stars and stripes wave over the day.

ADVICE FROM COLOGNE state that preparations are being made in that city for the interview of the Emperor of the French with the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia. The belief there is that the meeting will take place some day between the 5th and the 10th of September.

THE VOLUNTEER FIELD-DAY AT ASCOT is fixed for Saturday, the 2nd of August next. The forces on the occasion will be commanded by Lieutenant-General Sir John Pennefather, K.C.B., commanding the troops at Aldershot, who, it is expected, will associate with the volunteers a force of regulars, consisting of artillery, cavalry, and infantry.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS have given public notice of their intention to prosecute, under the Act of Parliament, all omnibus proprietors who permit the overcrowding of their vehicles, to the injury of their horses and the danger of the public.

ADVICE FROM STOCKHOLM state that the anniversary of the battle of Poltava was celebrated in all the principal towns of Sweden with extraordinary brilliancy. As a consequence of that national solemnity, a subscription has been opened to raise a monument to the memory of Charles XII.

THE CORN CROPS IN DACPHNY do not turn out so good as was expected. They are light both in straw and grain. In Bresse the crops have suffered much from being laid; but in the Lyonnais, Beaujolais, and Maconnais the sheaves are heavy and the ears well filled. The harvest, generally, does not equal the expectations entertained in spring, but the yield will certainly be above an average one.

IT IS REPORTED that a negotiation is on foot for a marriage between Prince Humbert, heir of the crown of Italy, and Princess Maria-Maximiliana of Russia, the daughter of the Grand Duchess Marie and of the late Duke of Leuchtenberg.

A PARIS LETTER asserts that Russia is desirous of offering her mediation in the American quarrel, and that the Emperor Alexander intends to make a personal appeal to President Lincoln on the subject.

THE LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.—A meeting of Lancashire and Cheshire landowners was held at Bishopton House on Saturday last, to raise subscriptions for the relief of the distress in the manufacturing districts. The Earl of Derby presided. Colonel Wilson Patten moved a resolution declaring it to be incumbent upon those who were connected by property with the distressed districts to take a prominent part in contributing relief and appointing a committee. The motion was carried, a committee formed, and subscriptions promised to the amount of £10,200. The Earl of Derby, the Earl of Eglon, Lord Egerton of Tatton, and the Marquis of Westminster gave £1000 each.

THE WAR IN CHINA.—A sinister rumour is in circulation to the effect that the British troops in China have met with a very serious reverse, attended with heavy loss, in consequence of which they have been compelled to fall back upon Shanghai. By the last mail we learnt that a force of 500 British soldiers were surrounded by a large force of the Taiping at Kaiding. Possibly the attempt to relieve them has failed. The answer given to Mr. Fitzgerald in the House of Commons the other night threw no fresh light upon the matter; but there is too much reason to fear that the Allies have sustained a check. It is the case we shall have to pay bitterly for the total and utter Government have made in embarking in the Taiping crusade.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

ONE of the most interesting items of Parliamentary news is "Mr. J. Smith's Bill," which has obtained a large measure of success, and is now in the hands of the House of Commons. When the bill was introduced it was involuntarily broken forth. It is said that the bill was introduced by Mr. Smith, who is a member of the House of Commons, and is a member of the House of Commons.

All the money is obtained. The last vote was secured on Monday night. The Appropriation Bill—that well-known and successful bill of the year—is on the table. I hear that the prorogation is fixed for Tuesday, the 5th. The Queen's absence from London postpones it three days, as the commission has to be sent to Balmoral for signature.

Three small supplementary votes were omitted by mistake. They were, in fact, forgotten; and when the error was announced on Tuesday it was thought that the House would have to go into Supply again; but as such a course would have involved a postponement of the prorogation for a day at least, and perhaps several days, it was settled by the Government that the department concerned must wriggle on without the money.

There seems to be some strange mismanagement in these Government departments. The above error is proof sufficient of this; but there is another. In the schedule of the Fortifications Bill there are some 200 items in three columns which are crossed-out, the total being carried out to a fourth column; and in many cases these totals were wrong by many thousands of pounds. Now, whose fault was this? The bill-drawers or the clerks at the War Office? Sir Frederick Smith called attention to these disgraceful blunders, and the passage of the bill was stopped until they were corrected.

In the library of the House there is a very curious print of a war-raft, which was submitted to the French Directory in 1797. The length of the raft was to be 2100 feet, the breadth 1500. In the centre you see a huge circular tower mounted with guns to throw hundred-pound shot, and along the sides smaller cupola-towers, forges for heating shot, and windmills to turn the paddle-wheels, which were to propel the raft. At the head and stern there is a bridge hauled up, which could be dropped on the shore for the embarkation and disembarkation of troops. On the deck there are soldiers, horse and foot, exercising. This awful raft was intended for the invasion of England, but somehow it could not get itself built. It must have been, however, if the brute of it crossed the channel, an awful bugbear to our grandmothers.

Who is to be Archbishop of Armagh, vice Lord John Beresford deceased? His Grace lived to the age of 80; he held the office forty years. The annual value of the see is £11,100; he received, therefore, a net total of £579,760. The salary for the future is £12,000.

The case of Mr. Pilkington, garrotted close by the Guards' Memorial in Waterloo-place, does not, as a humorous correspondent infers, "entirely snuff him up and settle" my argument of last week as to the doubtful genuineness of the *Times* correspondent "Where are the Police?" Mr. Pilkington is an elderly gentleman, whom one may imagine as very tired and sleepy, plodding homeward at one pace, worn out with his senatorial duties; he is set upon by some unseen ruffian, loses consciousness at the first blow or clutch, and does not regain it, apparently, for some time afterwards. Whereas the *Times* correspondent, describing himself as a man of six feet high and always in perfect training, stated that he had a hand-to-hand combat, lasting five minutes, in Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, at half-past eleven at night, during which no one passed by, and that he was attacked in the same manner, in the same week, in a different locality. Mr. Pilkington's case is, unfortunately, an indisputable one, and argues badly enough for our police supervision. It did not need the senatorial wisdom of Sir George Grey to tell us that the police could not be in every spot at once, *cela va sans dire*, and is a silly and useless truism; but what must be argued from the attack on Mr. Pilkington is that the ruffians have been sufficiently acquainted with the weakness of the guardian force, have sufficiently spied out the joints in their harness, and know when to strike without fear of detection. The failing point of the system seems to be the routine on which it is based: everything proceeds on a plan as immovable as the policeman's heel when once bricked in his stock; a constable has a certain "beat" or "round" on which he goes (when not delayed by area influence) in regular course, beginning at one end and finishing at the other, and the thieves know that, so soon as he has passed any given point, their operations will be uninterrupted for the next half hour. We are, however, fortunate in having at the head of our police such a man as Sir Richard Mayne, than whom there is no clearer-headed, more practical public servant, without a particle of official red-tapeism. The matter having been brought under his notice, we may be sure of his using the means in his power for the best practical result.

The Dramatic College fete, which have now become annual, went off this season with even unusual éclat. The Crystal Palace was thronged both on Saturday and Monday, and the amount received for the charity exceeded £3000. There was nothing to be said in this fair, as—save that the actors and actresses seem to have increased rather than relaxed in perseverance and assiduity—it was conducted much in the same way.

It is to be regretted that the opening of the Royal Academy as an evening exhibition has proved a total failure, the receipts, I believe, being insufficient even to defray the cost of the gas. This, however, is an exceptional year; another season's experiment might show a different result.

GARIBOLDI.—At a breakfast given by the Neapolitan Dictatorial Guards, a few days ago, Garibaldi, in the course of a speech, made the following observations:—"It is unnecessary that I should say I am glad to be amongst you once more, my old friends. You are all Unitarians, I cannot doubt it; but among you opinions differ as to the best means of attaining to unity. Every one here considers the necessity of going to Rome. Italy can never rest without Rome. A man might as well pretend to live with a worm gnawing at his heart. The important question of this day is not this or that form of Government. When in 1843 I and my comrades left America we had no other desire than to serve our country. We were resolved not to care about the form of Government. We were resolved to have a country. That was our programme. In 1849 I was one of the first to proclaim the Roman Republic. It is my boast: I tell you frankly I am a Republican, but my Republicanism is perfectly consistent with the actual monarchy, since by a Republic I mean the sovereignty of the people. Today the majority of the Italian people lean towards the monarchical system. I, too, accept it; and every good Italian ought to accept with me the programme, Italy and Victor Emmanuel. After 1849 the Piedmontese Government expelled me. No matter: we will not refer to the past. On my return to Italy I found that Pavia and Salaparuta, whom we ought to honour, had once more allied democracy and monarchy. I sided with them. Thus we have already accomplished something. We will go on to the end. We will hold fast to our programme until the unity of our country is attained; that is our supreme necessity. To reach this we will not abandon our programme, even if it leads to despotism. Nevertheless, I believe, despotism would be fatal to monarchy; it would succumb, and meanwhile the people would remain the same. Dante sought unity under a German Emperor—Machiavelli with Borgia; in our epoch it is better represented. I believe that Victor Emmanuel is a true lover of Italy—a real *galantuomo*, a man who, if he be not led away by his Ministers, is capable of rendering vast services to his country. To return to our subject. You all agree with me that Rome is indispensable to Italy—Rome, therefore, we must have at any cost. Let the voice of the Italian people be heard, and no one will be found to resist its will. If all, all of us, were to march united and in compact ranks, believe me there exists not on earth the power that can hinder us, and, despite the whole world, we shall have Rome and Venice. We can never forgive the Government if the fruit of all our struggles be destroyed. You will allude to the situation of Naples, Sicily, and to the tidings of reaction that reach us from time to time. Let the Government remedy this; if not we will haul the Government down, and at the risk of being cut to pieces we will conquer the unity of Italy. You, my old friends, you who share my views—I hope soon to see you march united to the final completion of our national task." Wild rumours have been lately floating about Turin to the effect that Garibaldi had suddenly disappeared, and was about to emerge into the light as the leader of an armed expedition somewhere. But thus far, at least, there is no foundation for the stories. Garibaldi was at Palermo on Monday, and had been previously somewhat unwell. It cannot, indeed, be doubted that all through Italy there is a general and strong belief that preparations are being made for some armed attempt on the part of the men of action. But we do not believe Garibaldi contemplates anything of the kind.

DEPARTURE OF THE COURT FOR SCOTLAND.—Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with the junior members of the Royal family and the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal suite, left Windsor on Tuesday evening at 6.50, by special train on the Great Western line, for Balmoral. After remaining at Balmoral one month, the Court will return to Windsor.

Literature.

The Works of Thomas Hood, Comic and Serious, in Prose and Verse. Edited, with Notes, by his Son—Edward Moxon and Co.

Two volumes are before us of that collected edition of the works of the late Mr. Hood which was announced at the end of last year as soon to be published. It is a student's edition, expressly intended for the use of those readers of Mr. Hood "who care to trace his career as a writer from his first connection with literature and to note the gradual development of his genius." The object of the present Mr. Hood has been, he says, to republish the writings of his father "in the order in which they were written," for the use of "those admirers" of his father "who have contracted an almost friendly interest, that will be gratified by tracing, step by step, the beat of his mind, the progress of his intellect, and the maturing of his powers;" so that in this edition, lying between the better-known poems which are also to be found in the other editions of the poet's writings, will be found scores of fugitive, pieces in prose and verse, rescued from annuals and magazines by the diligence of his son. Our own opinion of these miscellaneous writings is that they are chiefly valuable as proofs of industry and of consistency; having out, of course, their value as amusing writings. Hood, with his wretched health, and the many claims upon his time, was never in a position to cultivate laboriously his special gifts; and one does not discern, after the first few years, any "growth" in his "genius," except what seems to have rooted itself in the differences which increase of years brought with it. The school in which he was forced to labour—that of "general literature" was full of dangers and regrets. Whatever may be said in the way of flattery to the "public" the simple fact is, dislike it who may, that in writing for the hour a good man cannot always maintain those mountain-heights of sincerity on which alone the plant called genius grows. It so happened, however, that Mr. Hood, having (so far as appears) no philosophy of life at all, and no social criticism to put into prose or rhyme but such as appealed to a "side" of some sort, was liable but to one great temptation—that of allowing the pure, sweet, strong stream of his better gifts to be shaken into whirls, foamings, and eddies, by half-conscious rhetorical artifice. It must have been the saddest thing in his life when he felt he had given away to this temptation, and filled, because he *had* to do it, ten pages of nondescript matter, to make the Muses weep, when the oracle within him would only have written ten golden sentences or words, if it had been allowed its own way. Hood's "works of supererogation" were chiefly on the side of the popular philanthropism, and the harm done was not, and is not, obvious to vulgar souls; but it *was* harm, and no one, in his best mood, can read even the epistle to Rie Wilson or Miss Kilmansegge and not catch, here and there, the false notes that break in upon the music. However, what is done is done, and the world seems as far as ever from having learnt its lesson in these matters.

The editor says he shall be glad of honest criticisms. We will venture on two remarks only. First, we think he is hard upon Mrs. Stowe in saying that she quoted the lines "We watched her breathing through the night," with "so much Yankee assimilation" that they got reprinted as her own composition. Where was the "assimilation"? We perfectly remember reading them in "Dred" at the time of its publication and knowing them for what they were. They were put in inverted commas, and it is quite possible, though the verses had been published in "Bantling Poetry" as Hood's, and quoted all over the world, that Mrs. Stowe did not know the author's name. Even if she *had* known it she might have thought it more serious taste to put a poem at the end of a Death-bed Scene without adding the signature. The other little matter is this. At page 287 of vol. i. occurs the line—

Not, though I lay on my small bed,

and Mr. Hood says in a footnote he is at "a loss to discover" who this "I" is. Well, one can't know everything; but what does he say to Fitzgerald, the Small Bed poet? See first couplet and first note of "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers."

This edition, we need not say (considering who publish it), very nicely got up indeed, and deserves commendation. Incidentally, a hundred little things turn up in these very varied pages to show afresh how kind and affectionate a heart the man had and how bright and wakeful a brain. But the story of his life is so cruelly painful a story that to be perpetually reminded of it spoils the reading of his best things to our thinking.

Flowers, for Ornament and Decoration. By Miss MALING, Author of "Indoor Plants, and How to Grow Them," &c. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Since the Russians were good enough to reform our dinner-tables (at least in the "best society"), a manual of flowers for ornament and decoration assumes an aspect of double interest and importance. Of course it is advisable that the public be properly garished at Almack's or the race ball. It would be impossible to dance with a brunette carrying a bouquet one-half of the whiteness of which would turn black before supper, or with a blonde who had neglected to assimilate a sufficient quantity of pale blue. But, if we are to feast on flowers as well as other things at dinner, it is equally necessary to see that the caress shall be in harmony with the cutlet, the ferns with the fish, and the pelargoniums with the partridges. Miss Maling removes all difficulties in both departments of delight. Her little volume shows how to procure flowers on the best terms, how to take a rose without withering all the buds, how to arrange them with mingled strength and grace, which appears to be a complicated proceeding, but one made easy here. There is equal provision for the bouquet and the wreath, for the flat table-dish and the towering chair ornament. There is advice as to what to seek of the best in season, and instructions how to make them last the longest possible time. A flower is not a short-lived plant after all; and if transferred to the "smiling, rosy, little head" of beauty, or to the fairy fingers whose tips the happy buds alone are worthy to kiss, the blossoms will accept the envied blessing, and live at least as long as Nature would have allowed them in their own original mother earth. Flowers, so intimately associated with Love and Music, are a universal passion; and the best way to fondle and cherish them should form a portion of every liberal education.

RARE BOOKS.—In a sale of choice illustrated and other books, county histories, &c., which have during the last week passed under the hammer of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, of Leicester-square, there occurred a volume of theological tracts, including two works in the presses of Caxton and Pynon, hitherto unknown to bibliographers. That printed by Caxton consisted of the office for Transfiguration Day, on ten leaves; and that by Pynon, the office for the succeeding day, occupying 24 leaves. An additional interest is attached to the book from the circumstance of its being the first printed in England for the service of the Church. The volume was sold, after an active competition, for £200. Its destination is believed to be the British Museum.

REGISTERED LETTERS.—On the 1st of August next, and thenceforward, the fee charged at all post-offices for registering inland letters during the present hours of registration will be reduced from 6d. to 4d. The registration fees on foreign and colonial letters will remain unaltered. At the metropolitan chief offices, at the London district offices (including the Lombard-street and Charing-cross branches), and at all provincial head offices, registration, whether for inland, foreign or colonial letters, will be extended until the closing of the letter-box for each despatch, or until the office is closed for the night, upon payment of a rate of 4d. In addition to the ordinary registration fee. The Post Office cannot undertake the safe transmission of valuable inclosures in registered letters. So sent, they are exposed to serious risk, but when registered they are practically safe. As a step, therefore, towards the more general registration of all such letters, it is intended not only to reduce the fee, but to treat as registered all letters unquestionably containing coin, even though they be posted without registration, charging them on delivery with a double registration fee—that is to say, with a fee of 8d. in addition to the ordinary postage; and, further, should it be found that any such letters cannot be registered in time to be forwarded by the mail for which they were posted, they will be detained for the next despatch. In the first instance, however, this course will be adopted only as regards letters posted in, or addressed to, or passing through London—foreign and colonial letters excepted.



CHARITY. — (FROM THE PICTURE BY M. CELESTIN NANTEUIL.)

"CHARITY."

THE work of M. Celestin Nanteuil which we reproduce in our Engraving is rather in the nature of a fine Raphael-like study than a picture which deals with any scene of real life. It may be considered to belong to the romantic school of painting, yet with certain severe elements in its composition which entitle it to a greater degree of consideration than those weak performances which usually lay claim to the distinction. It is for the reason that our artist has confined himself strictly within the limits of his chosen school—is, indeed, one of the modern leaders of that section in the art-world who claim free licence to dispense with ordinary and every-day forms—that the picture of "Charity" appeals to so few of our sympathies; but still, regarded purely as a work of art, and considered only in relation to the composition of the whole work rather than as either revealing or reviving a sentiment, it will not fail to be attractive.

In an unknown country, upon the steps or esplanade of an edifice not easily recognised either as monastery, palace, or chateau, elegant women are disporting bread to the beggars, each of whom represents a class of misery peculiar to himself. The architecture, the flowers, the beautiful draperies, are all so admirably represented, and the principal figures are treated in a manner so appreciative, that, notwithstanding its want of absolute reality, the scene is in itself too touching to be passed by unheeded. It is true the interest may be of an unusual nature, but it is at the same time a proof of the genius of the artist that it will be sincere. The painting is essentially decorative, too, and its great excellence lies in the fact that M. Nanteuil, while preserving all the characteristics of decorative art, has infused into the subject a human treatment and an agreeable mode of handling both form and colour. It is by these means alone that the followers of the school which the artist has adopted can hope to retain the public appreciation for their works.

THE BONAPARTE FAMILY REGISTER.

THE register of the Imperial family, on which has been inscribed the *proci-verba* of the birth of Prince Napoleon's son, is a large folio volume, bound in red velvet, and having at the corners ornaments of silver-gilt, with the family cipher "N" in the centre. It was commenced in 1806, and the first entry made was the adoption of Prince Eugene by the Emperor. The second, made the same year, relates to the adoption of the Princess Stephanie de Beauharnais, who recently died Grand Duchess of Baden, and who was cousin of the Empress Josephine. Next comes the marriage of the Emperor Napoleon I.; then several certificates of the birth of Princes of the family, and lastly of the King of Rome: which closes the series of the certificates inscribed under the reign of the First Emperor. This register was confided to the care of Count Regnaud de Saint-Jean-d'Angely, Minister and Councillor of State, and Secretary of the Imperial family. It was to him,

under the First Empire, as it is now to the Minister of State under the Second, that was reserved the duty of drawing up the *proci-verba* of the great acts relative to Napoleon. At the fall of the First Empire, Count Regnaud de Saint-Jean-d'Angely carefully preserved the book, which at his death passed into the hands of the Countess, his widow. That lady handed it over to the President of the Republic when Louis Napoleon was called by universal suffrage to the Imperial throne. In this same register, continued by the Second Empire, may be seen the certificates of the marriage of the Emperor Napoleon III., and of that of the Princess Clotilde; of the birth of Prince Imperial; of the death of Prince Jérôme; and, lastly, of the birth of Prince Napoleon Victor Jérôme Frédéric, just born. The name of Napoleon commemorates that of the head of the dynasty; that of Victor is in remembrance of the house of Savoy; Jérôme is that of his paternal grandfather; and Frédéric was given in compliment to the family of Wurtemberg.

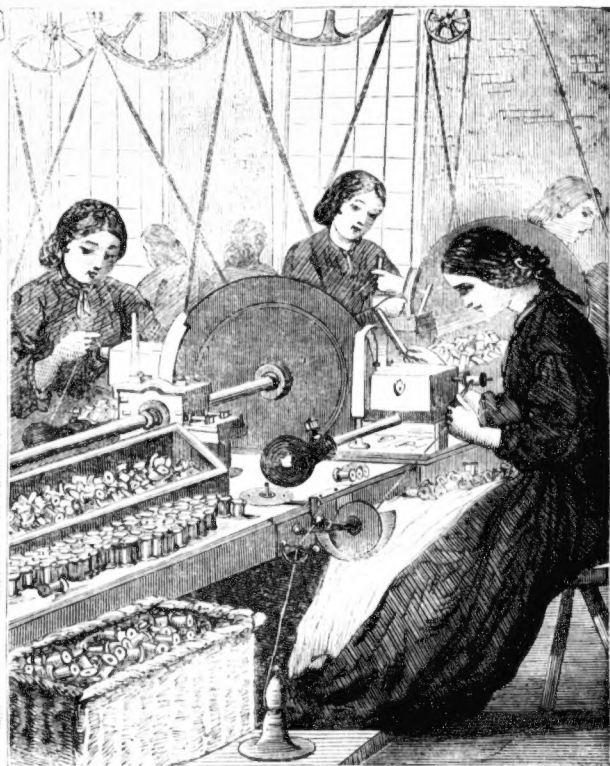
THE WORKSHOPS OF ENGLAND.—NO. XI.—MESSRS. WALTER EVANS AND CO.'S "BOAR'S HEAD" COTTON MILLS, NEAR DERBY.



SPOOL OR REEL TURNING MACHINE.

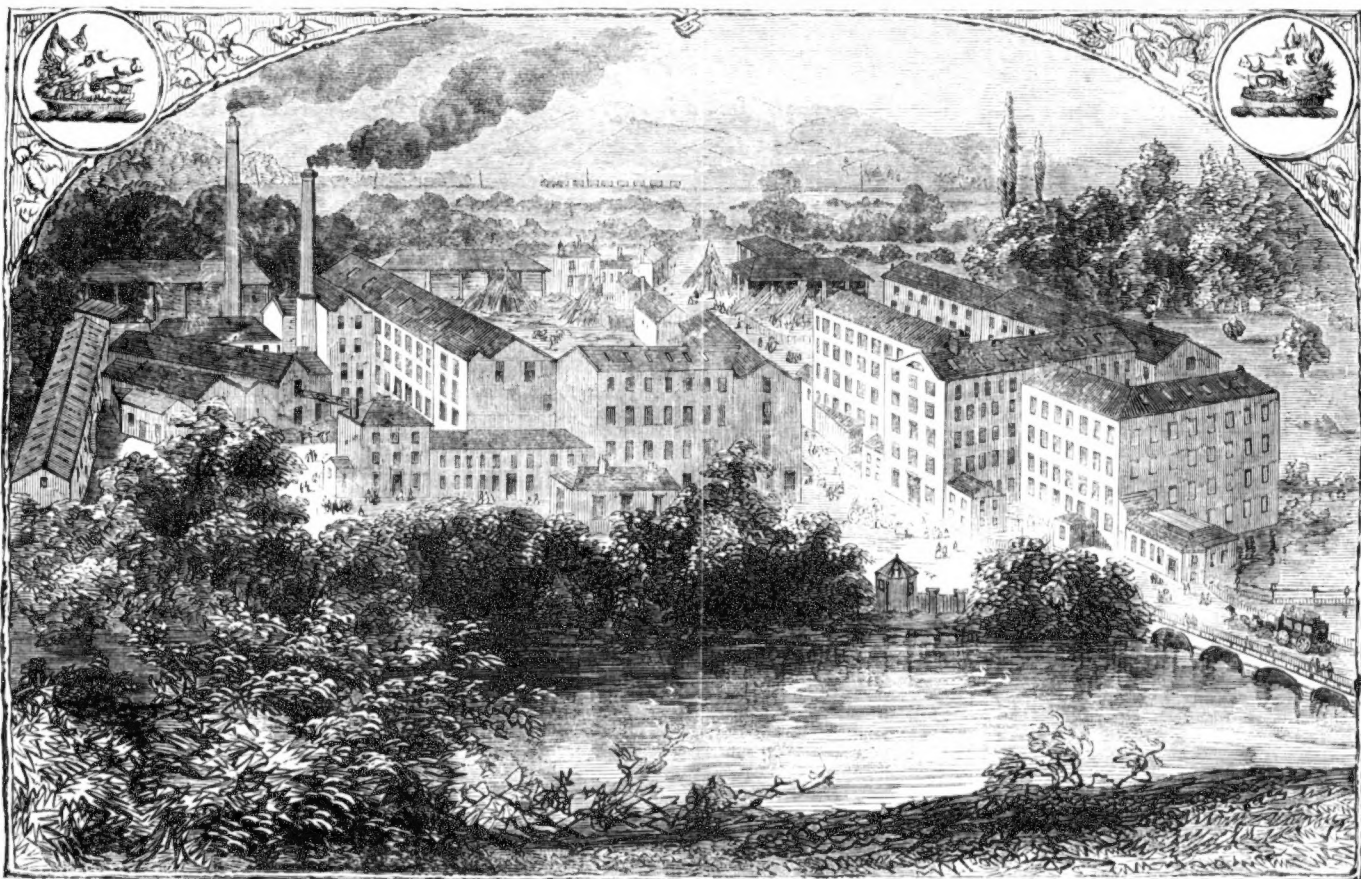


WINDING THE BOAR'S HEAD COTTON.



COTTON-WINDING MACHINE.

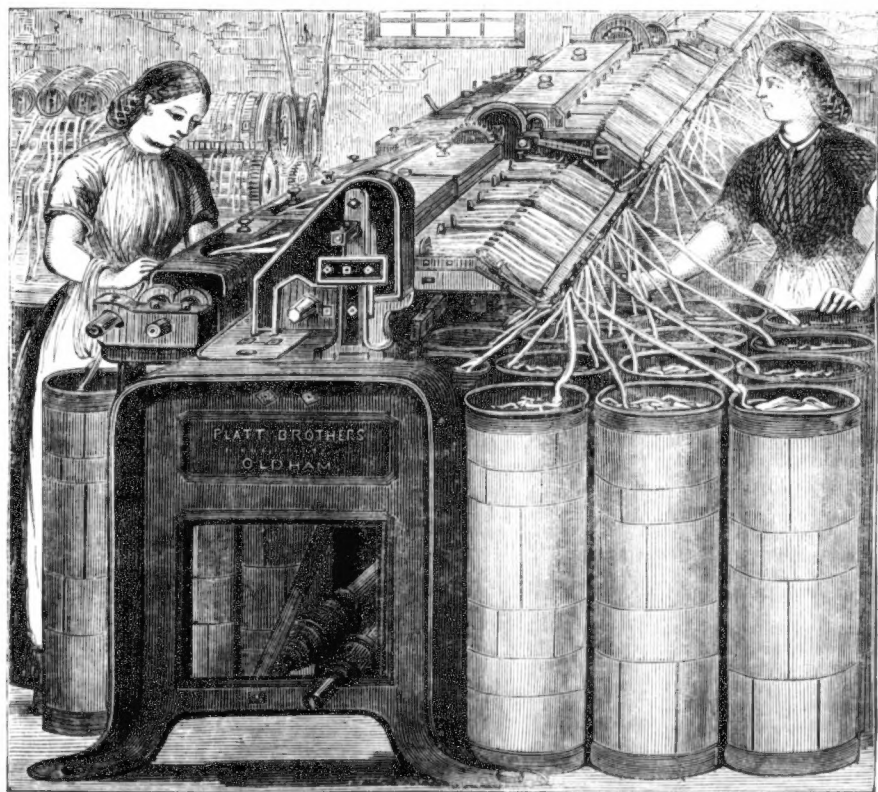
In the letters which bring the latest news of the continued struggle between the Northern and the Southern States of America, the record of one serious calamity is incessantly recurring, and a conviction of its truth has already seriously affected an enormous division of British commerce, and still threatens one of our greatest national resources with difficulties almost insurmountable, except by vigorous enterprise and patient endurance. The Southern supply of cotton is everywhere being destroyed by the Confederate forces, whose last care before retiring from a position is to fire the precious bales for which Europe is waiting rather than allow them to fall into the hands of their opponents. In this country hundreds of suffering men and women wait—God knows with how much patience and self-restraint—beside the silent mills of Lancashire, while the inquiring eyes of statesmen, manufacturers, and philanthropists are directed to those regions whence for the future they may hope for a supply of that commodity which has



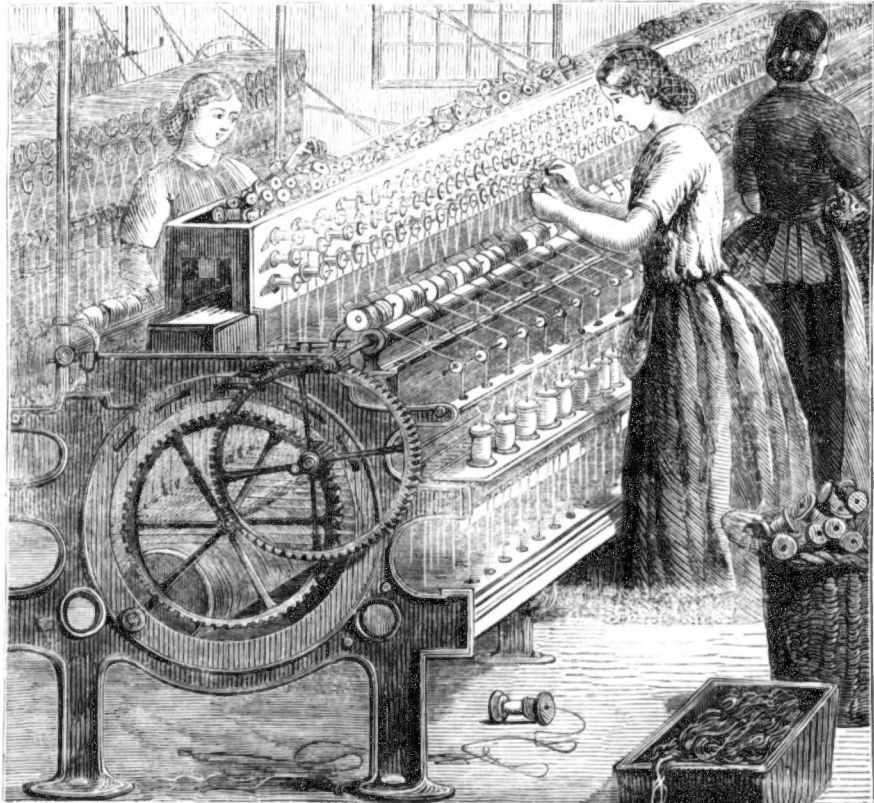
WALTER EVANS AND CO., BOAR'S HEAD COTTON-MILLS DARLEY, NEAR DERBY.

so long been associated with our national prosperity. It is to India that this gaze is most anxiously directed; and it may occur to those who are accustomed to watch the progress of events, and at the same time to acknowledge the inscrutable guidance which directs their results, that there may through the present calamity be wrought out for our vast empire in the East a national redemption succeeding its late terrible ordeal of blood and fire.

No longer counting on those millions of bales which came each year from the low, sandy islands on the coast from Charleston to Savannah (the "sea-island cotton," with its long silky filaments), from South Carolina, and Florida, from the uplands of Georgia, and all the pod-producing tracts of the vast continent which has supplied four-fifths of the material imported to Great Britain, we must look to new districts where the seed will be sown in hope that the trade may yet in time recover its fatal dependence upon any one country which, however inexhaustible, may be laid desolate



DRAWING-MACHINES.



DOUBLING-FRAME, AT WHICH THE YARNS ARE CONVERTED INTO SEWING COTTON.

by the fierce face of civil war. These reflections, which are, indeed, but a continuation of the remarks at present pervading all companies where the great topic is mentioned—occur to me while I prepare myself to visit one of the large mills which are still supplying the world with cotton in one of its most interesting and universal forms, that of the fine and even thread used for sewing. I am bound, indeed, to no less a place than the old-established Boar's Head Cotton Mills of Messrs. Walter Evans and Co. at Darley. To this destination I am borne by the early train from Birmingham, catching glimpses on my journey of Tamworth and Burton, one for ever to be associated with the name of the statesman who inaugurated commercial liberty, the other with that national beverage dear to every British palate.

Once in the good old town, accompanied by an antiquarian friend whose tendencies lead us both to a good old inn bearing the good old sign of "The King's Head," I have leisure to "refresh myself mightily" with that same good old ale, and an edifying meal while by the remarks of my companion, from which I gather that the town occupies the site opposite the Roman station called *Derventio*; that the Saxon name of the place was *Northwiche*, the name *Darley*, whether given to it by the Danes or not, being probably derived from the Celtic "dwr" water; that the town was recovered from the Danish conquerors by Ethelred, the daughter of Alfred, in 918, and again by Edmund I. in 942. Further, that, in the time of Edward the Confessor, Darley was a Royal borough of 284 burgesses; that it declined in importance for some time, few events of any historical interest being connected with it until the war of the Great Rebellion, when Charles I. marched through the town to Nottingham, leaving it to be garrisoned by the Parliamentary troops under Sir John Gell. Later, in December, 1715, the Pretender staid there for two days before retreating into Scotland from the Duke of Cumberland.

Setting out on my journey to the Boar's Head Cotton Mills, and making a slight detour to look at the narrow and winding streets in the old part of the town, as well as to regard the beautiful old tower of All Saints Church, I became acquainted with that great pride and attraction of Darley—the celebrated Arboretum, consisting of eleven acres of land, which was laid out by Lorton, at the expense of the late Joseph Strutt, Esq., for the benefit of the townspeople.

It is time to resume my journey, however; and, leaving behind me the factories for coachbuilding, silkweaving, ribbed-hosiery weaving, ironfounding, and the formation of those beautiful ornaments of spar, "blue john" and black marble, I turn up the Irongate into the Duffield-road and commence a two mile walk, in which all the beauties of English pastoral scenery seem to smile on me at once.

Passing the pretty villas which skirt one side of the road, and are half screened by deep clumps of evergreens, golden-flowered Laburnum, pink and white hawthorn, and scarlet-blossomed clematites, all mingling in one exquisite glow of bloom, in contrast with the green meadow-land filled with peacefully-grazing cattle and divided by hawthorn hedges, I reach Darley, where the Gothic church, built in 1818, and liberally endowed by the last generation of the Evans family, crowns the hill on my left hand. Here I pass through the beautiful village, where the stillness is broken only by the shrill laughter of children but just liberated from the large schools, of which there are five, for the education of the young workers at the mill. These schools, too, are maintained by a fund left for that purpose by the same family. All the children employed at the Boar's Head Cotton Mills spend a part of each day under the instruction of competent teachers, and are stimulated to diligence and good conduct by the half-yearly distribution of prizes. The cotton-mills themselves were built by the late Messrs. Evans in 1783, but have since been much increased and almost entirely rebuilt.

Crossing a bridge which spans the Derwent where its beautifully-wooded banks form a charming accessory to the varied landscape, I inquire for the counting-house, and, explaining the object of my visit, am at once introduced to the younger Mr. Evans, and make a tour of the buildings, up to whose walls the land is shadowed with goodly trees. It is nearly one o'clock before I return to the counting-house; and, the workpeople presently coming out in large numbers, I follow the main body of the assembly to the dining-hall, where many of them take their meals, which have already been cooked for them by a woman who is appointed to that duty.

Many of them, however, disperse across the fields to their own homes, and I should certainly imitate their example by seeking some refreshment in the interval of my visit had I not learned that, for more than thirty years, no tavern has existed in Darley Vale. This is doubtless to the advantage of the operatives employed at the works; for, however picturesque a part of the landscape the "village inn" may have become in some districts, its results are too often to be seen in the squalid degradation of those homes where the children cry for bread, which has been denied them by those who seek a sordid relief from toil in the drugged liquor of the bar or the brutish revelry of the taproom. Returning to the mill, I very gladly submit myself to the guidance of the foreman, who tells me that he was a child in the village fifty-six years ago (having worked forty-seven years for his present employers), and request that I may be shown the whole process of spinning cotton.

As the first step in this direction, I am taken to the "mixing-room," where the bales of cotton, each weighing from 350lb. to 400lb., are brought from the stores and piled in "bins" or compartments, containing, when full, about two tons each, and arranged one above another according to the quality. The best sort is the American, from which the famous "Boar's Head" crocheted cotton is manufactured; for some other sorts the different qualities are mixed, a portion from each "bin" or layer being torn by means of a sort of rake, which gathers, as it is drawn from top to bottom of the various bales or compartments, a definite quantity of each. My conductor informs me that from a single ounce of cotton they spin a thread of from 1250 to 2100 yards in length, according to the purpose for which it is designed; and that in some manufactories they produce a still greater length from the same quantity of material. A ton of cotton, indeed, could be spun into a yarn 25,657 miles in length. The long-established reputation of the "Boar's Head" cottons has been confirmed by the award of a prize medal from the jurors of the London International Exhibition of 1862 to Messrs. Walter Evans and Co., for "strong and superior thread."

Many thousand pounds weight of raw material is daily spun at these mills into the famous "Boar's Head" Perfection or embroidery, Knitting, Glacé, and Sewing cotton. Hearing this, I stand gazing in a midday reverie at the immense heaps piled together in the mixing-room, wondering (not being great at arithmetic) into how many billions or trillions of miles it will ultimately be spun; to what remote places it will be consigned; to what diverse grades and characters of the great human family those slender filaments will speak of a common brotherhood. In the midst of a wild whirl of practical romance, "The Autobiography of a Reel of Cotton, with a vivid *dramatis personæ* of slaves and their drivers, cotton lords, yellow millionaires, poor sempstresses, what not?" I am presented with that cotton-pod represented in the Engraving on the previous page, and follow my guide to the "Blowing-room." It is here that the cotton is opened and cleansed from dust and other impurities by being passed into machines consisting of a series of cylinders, through which it is drawn or sucked by a powerful current of air. Upon leaving this machine the material is not only cleaner but more soft and fleecy, and can be removed to the "scutching-machine," where it is subject to the pressure of wooden rollers and afterwards beaten. This gives the mass of cotton the appearance of a sheet of wadding, which is afterwards wound into a cylindrical roll of about three feet in length and nine inches in diameter, called a "lap."

I now follow it to the "carding"-room, where that most wonderful engine the "carding-machine" disentangles the fibres of the cotton, and, as it were, draws them out parallel to each other in continuous threads. The "cards," which are a sort of wire brushes, engage the fibres of the cotton as the "lap" is slowly taken up by the rollers of the machine, and comb it into a long and continuous band of fleece about an inch wide by a quarter of an inch thick. This fleecy band, which is called a "rovin," is discharged into a tin can in which it coils itself, as a rope might be coiled in a bucket. Nine of these "carding-machines" can be attended to and kept working by one man.

The "drawing-room," unlike the ordinary apartment bearing that name, is a scene of unceasing activity, where a number of girls are in constant employment watching and adjusting the "drawing-frames."

To these machines the rovins are taken, that the operation begun at the carding-engine may be completed, and by being passed between sets of rollers moving with unequal velocity the more perfect and uniform arrangement of the fibre in its entire length is effected, while the inequalities in the soft band or rope of cotton are adjusted. At the first compression of this soft rope this is all that is required, but by two further repetitions of the process (at greater velocity) it becomes drawn out, and at the same time is pressed into a finer consistency. These drawing-frames are so beautifully constructed that should one of the rovins break through its passage the machine immediately stops, and the attention of the workwoman is immediately directed to the part requiring to be replaced. The long soft rope after the first drawing is about as thick as a ballpen, but so soft that it may be passed through the eye of a drawing-needle.

The more compact thread, or "slub," is now ready for being wound on to bobbins at the "slubbing-machines." At these, each of which carry from twenty-eight to sixty-four bobbins, it is wound singly at first, and then at a similar engine again wound off double, the operation of winding and rewinding being repeated until the filament is in a proper state for conversion into cotton yarn, an operation effected by twisting the threads of two bobbins of the rovin just completed, and at the same time winding them on to another bobbin. The "slubbing-machines" are attended entirely by girls, whose wages average eight shillings a week all the year round.

Even in the primitive and pastoral simplicity of Darley Vale the inveterate determination of following the fashion is exhibited, for here amongst the slubbing-machines a machine expands to almost dangerous dimensions; nothing seems sufficient to abate this exhibition of female vanity; the presence of peril, the constant recurrence of death by fire, have failed even to mitigate its universal adoption; and the mill hands of Darley no doubt regard their reluctant skirts with a complacency as profound as that of their sisterhood amongst the upper ten thousand. Here, however, every precaution has been taken to prevent accidents; all the wheels are covered, and guards are duly fixed at every dangerous corner; in which respect the modern arrangements at the various cotton-mills reduce the liability of the workpeople to accident except in cases of real and almost unpardonable carelessness. There are numerous cases, however, where such accidents do occur; and it is incumbent on all millowners to secure their workpeople as much as possible even from the terrible results of their own want of caution.

Coming from this digression, however, I follow the bobbins of yarn to the "twisting-machines," where three or more yarns are wound on to another bobbin, during their passage to which they are drawn through a shallow trough of condensed water, and, at the same time, twisted evenly together. These twisting-machines are also attended by girls, each girl having three machines under her charge.

For the "Boar's Head" six threads of yarn are necessary to make one of cotton; and the machinery for this part of the business is so exquisitely adapted that a child could accurately perform in a single day the work which, a century ago, would have taken weeks to complete. The cotton is next carried to the reeling-room, where it is wound from the bobbins into "hanks," or skeins, ready for the dyer or bleacher. Each machine in this department will wind off forty hanks in twenty minutes; the hanks generally contain about 420 yards, so that in a day of ten hours every woman winds some 290 miles of cotton. The length of cotton in each hank, which varies according to the number or quality, is accurately measured during the process of winding by means of a simple appliance fixed on the side of each machine.

The hanks are next sorted, and the number and quality of each indicated by the colour of the thread by which it is tied. In this condition they are sent to the dyer or the bleacher, and, returning brilliantly coloured or pure white, the cotton is passed over hot cylinders where it is turned until the p. collar curl produced by the drying or bleaching is taken out of the skein, and the thread assumes a glossy appearance. It now only remains to wind the cotton on reels, cards, or balls, or to put it up in skeins, according to the purposes for which it is intended, or as it may be ordered by the dealer. The greater part of it, however, is wound on reels by very simple machinery, so adjusted that, by referring to a dial before her communicating with the machine, the winder can regulate the exact length of cotton on each reel. In a day of ten hours a girl can wind from twenty-five to forty dozen reels, each containing a hundred yards. The reels used for sewing-machines contain often 2400 yards, the greatest care being taken to select the strongest cotton, and to keep it free from knots.

In the case of the "Boar's Head" crocheted cotton it is necessary (in order to preserve its full strength, and at the same time its soft texture) to wind by the hand wheel, and this operation, which is shown in our Engraving, is mostly carried on by the people of Darley in their own homes. For this description, together with the Perfection or embroidery cotton, I am told that Messrs. Evans supply so large a demand that it would be impossible to convey even by means of figures a certain estimate of the number of yards annually consumed in English homes alone.

As I leave the winding-room my attention is directed to several machines recently invented. These are so marvelously constructed that as soon as a reel is filled with cotton it falls from the spindle, and another, which appears almost impatient to be wound, is immediately taken up to supply its place. By this wonderful adaptation it continues to wind unceasingly at the rate of 150 to 200 dozen reels a day. The glaze thread, manufactured by a machine invented at Darley Mills, is wound on these machines, and the cotton used in its manufacture is the finest American.

The reels are next taken to the warehouse, where they are packed in dozen and half-dozen grosses—the balls being distributed in half-pounds and pounds, and the skeins in bundles of 5lb. and 10lb. each. The packets are then labelled, sorted, and stowed in bins, whence they are sent to the merchants and retail dealers. From the warehouses of the merchant the manufacture of cotton finds its way to all parts of the world, including the original birthplaces of the raw material; from the shelves and drawers of the retailers it is present in every household, helping daily to the amusement of the wealthy and to the support of the poor. In my journey through the mill I am struck not only by the silver-like polish and perfect cleanliness of the machinery, but by the smooth and spotless appearance of the floors. I learn that they are well scrubbed every week, that the stairs are cleaned down daily (a fact attested by the presence there of girls with pail and broom during my visit), and that the entire factory is thoroughly lime-washed once a year.

The lithographic and letterpress printing department of the mill is on a scale as large as that of a printer in an ordinary market-town; and yet it is not idle, for here are produced all the labels, the ornamental wrappers, the bill heads, and the letter headings used at the mills. In connection with this it may be mentioned that the Messrs. Evans are paper-manufacturers, their mills for paper adjoining those for cotton, and producing six tons of paper weekly.

One of the most important adjuncts of the cotton factory is, of course, the dyehouse, where the myriads of hanks are dyed in a hundred brilliant colours, of which the newly-invented mauves and magentas are not the least attractive. The foreman of this department is an intelligent and skilful workman, thoroughly acquainted with his ancient and useful trade.

On leaving the great vats and tubs where the many-hued liquor awaits the cotton, I enter a great yard so piled with timber large and small that I begin to fancy there is yet another business in "the vale," and that Messrs. Evans have started in the beam and plank trade. Finding the foreman of the yard, however, I learn that this wood (mostly birch) is used for making the "spools" and reels upon which the cotton is wound. I am shown into a shop where, amidst a maze of straps, driving-wheels, lathes, and circular saws, a number of men and boys are engaged in turning, and am informed that a tree twenty feet long and ten inches in diameter can in the space of half an hour be converted into reels; that each of the many lathes turn upwards

of thirty gross, or 1120, a day; and that thousands of coils for a flannel and running feet of birch poles are consumed for the same purpose in the year. The enormous quantity of timber now felled every season, and the fact is, sufficient to build a colonial settlement, and yet I calculated that it will only be enough to supply reels until 1864.

As I am about leaving the factory, I learn with heartfelt satisfaction that these mills have been at work nearly full time throughout the American difficulty. The contrast between the appearance of the people at this mill and that of the hands at many of the factories in various parts of the country is scarcely less striking than the aspect of accommodation of their dwellings.

The houses in the village contain either two or three sleeping-rooms (according to family), beside living-room, kitchen, and (proper children. To each of them there is a small garden—a patch of garden ground, and they are let at from 2s. 1d. to 3s. a week. It might be too much to say that this Darley-hire village is the real happy valley; but it may safely be asserted that both old and young are cared for by having suitable employment provided for them; that for the children there are always at hand the means of instruction; and that Messrs. Evans (following the example of their predecessors) continually endeavour to elevate the social condition of the people by whom they are surrounded.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

It is rather curious that with all the revivals and representations of well-known operas that have taken place this year at our two Italian theatres, not one entirely new work has been brought out at either. "Where is the new work to come from?" it may be asked; and, indeed, there is no eminently successful composer of the day among the Italians except Verdi, and Verdi for the last few years seems to have written nothing but that "Forza del Destino," which, by the force of some misfortune, has not yet been produced, though it was said to be quite finished nearly a year ago. Her Majesty's Theatre, however, promises a new opera by Signor Schira, well known in London as a staging-master, and formerly as an orchestral conductor; and also a new cantata by Signor Giuglini, the celebrated tenor. One remarkable thing about Signor Schira's opera is, that the libretto is the production of the Marquis Massimo d'Azeglio.

The last great success at Her Majesty's Theatre has been the production of "The Marriage of Figaro," with such a "cast" as certainly could not be obtained for it at any other operatic establishment in Europe. The three female parts are sung to perfection. The Royal Italian Opera, which is marvellously rich in "light sopranos," might find a representative for the character of Susanna as efficient even as Miss Louisa Pyne; but it could find no such Countess as Mlle. Titiens, and certainly no such Cherubino as Mlle. Trebelli, who, besides being a most graceful actress, is at once the youngest and the best contralto or mezzo-soprano singer now on the stage. In spite of its immense musical value, we fancy "The Marriage of Figaro" will never obtain the same position with the musical public in England that has so long been occupied by "Don Giovanni." The former is a comic, or half comic half sentimental, work, full of beauty, written in the most delicate style, but containing no very striking dramatic situations, and founded upon a story which, even in the original prose of Beaumarchais, presents no interest apart from the satire in which every scene abounds. The latter is a tragedy, in which every human passion—especially the most interesting of all—is exhibited, and in which the "fable" is one of the most popular and exciting ever presented in a dramatic form.

Each new character in which Mlle. Patti appears is a new triumph for her. Her Norina in "Don Pasquale" is a most charming impersonation, though certainly not a very easy one for a young and pre-eminently interesting vocalist whose success has hitherto been chiefly obtained in sentimental parts. The first night Mlle. Patti was pronounced perfect in everything but the ill temper which Norina should assume as soon as the contract between her and the notorious Pasquale has once been fairly signed. Mlle. Patti, however, was not long overcoming (in a dramatic sense at least) her natural inability to lose her temper, and she now represents the temporary Mlle. Pasquale in the most amusing manner throughout. Such brilliant acting and brilliant singing combined are rarely witnessed.

The Great Jubilee Concert of the Philharmonic Society was a very grand but exceedingly tiresome affair. The music performed (Dr. Bennett's overture apart) did not appear to have been selected with any reference to the occasion, which was a slight oversight; and there was a great deal too much of it, which is always a tremendous mistake. Many of the millions who fortunately for them were not present must have read with tears in their eyes that the concert lasted five hours. The worst of it was, that it was almost necessary to stay to the end in order to witness the so-called "ovations" which form so important a part of every jubilee, and which on this occasion were offered, in particular, to Professor Bennett, the musical conductor, and to Mr. Anderson, the treasurer of the Philharmonic. Very few musicians, even of the most enthusiastic kind, care for five hours of classical music. What the effect of such an amount of admirably-combined sound may be on the general public it is somewhat difficult to say. But those who really listen, must be fatigued by the attention they pay to it. Those who do not listen, but whisper and talk during the performances, must in the end be tired by the mere noise. Not only was the programme of the jubilee concert too long, but, as we have already hinted, it was inappropriate. We learn from Mr. Hogarth's recently-published history of "The Philharmonic Society" that in deciding to hold the jubilee it was resolved that "at this concert a selection of the colossal works written expressly for the society by Beethoven, Spohr, Mendelssohn, and other great composers, be performed." Certainly it was a great pity that this resolution was departed from, and that the programme included none of the celebrated compositions which were first brought out through the immediate agency of the Philharmonic Society. When Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and so many of Mendelssohn's symphonies and overtures were written expressly for the Philharmonic, it is not a little curious that not one of these works, which are really and most intimately associated with the history of the institution, should have been performed on such an occasion as the celebration of the fiftieth year of its existence. As it was, the overture to "Leonora," No. 3, the Jupiter Symphony, and Dr. Bennett's new programme-overture, were admirably performed. Mlle. Goldschmidt-Lind sang her best (which is not quite so good now as it was fifteen years ago); and Mlle. Titiens, in the finale to "Loreley," sang perfectly.

A memorial is about to be addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer setting forth the claims of the Royal Academy of Music to a grant from Government. It is, indeed, difficult to understand why of all arts music alone should be left without support from the State, and why this omission should be made in England alone of all civilised countries in the world. We extract from the memorial (which is a somewhat lengthy, though at the same time interesting, document) the following paragraphs:—

That your memorialists, all musicians, have some of them been educated in the academy, which they regard with such affection as they would a native home or a foster-mother; whereas the others have studied their art elsewhere in England or on the Continent, and so have not the same ties to link them to the institution and its interests; and you may therefore receive this memorial as representing the unprejudiced but not inexperienced views of persons sincerely desirous for the general welfare of music. That the academy is not now to be considered as an experiment, the forty years' experience of its operations, through all the vicissitudes of fortune and of management, is a sufficient test of its capabilities. These capabilities are restricted by the extent of its funds, and qualified by the necessary means of acquiring these funds. It is not always the most gifted individuals who have the best pecuniary resources, and it is therefore deeply to be regretted that the present large rate of annual payment should be required from the pupils. While, therefore, the grant by Government of a building for the carrying on of the operations of the establishment (a support enjoyed by all the scientific and artistic bodies in the metropolis) would greatly relieve the academy of its apprehensions, the concession of yet more liberal assistance would give the power of diminishing the charges to students and increasing the number of free scholarships, and thus vastly enhance the benefits of the institution.

THOMAS FOX, 2, Catherine-street, Strand, addressed.—SARACEN.—
JULY 26, 1862.